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Vol II





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THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**

AND

GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

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EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

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VOLUME I.



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## PREFACE.

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AFTER twenty-eight weeks friendly acquaintance with the public, the MEDICAL ADVISER stands forward in the form and dignity of a volume: and the Editor feels no small satisfaction in thus formally presenting to that public an esteemed friend, who has received such liberal encouragement from it. It is a pleasing office; and in so doing, he avails himself of his privilege to offer a few words in explanation of the intentions and dispositions of his protégé.

The plan with which the MEDICAL ADVISER set out, was, in the first place, to open to the public a source from which it might derive scientific medical advice, without being either enormously mulcted or empirically duped. This object has been attained so far as could be expected, fully testified by numerous correspondents from all parts of the empire. In the second place, its intent was, to diffuse useful knowledge in all branches of science connected with the animal economy, divested of unintelligible technicalities and fatiguing pro-



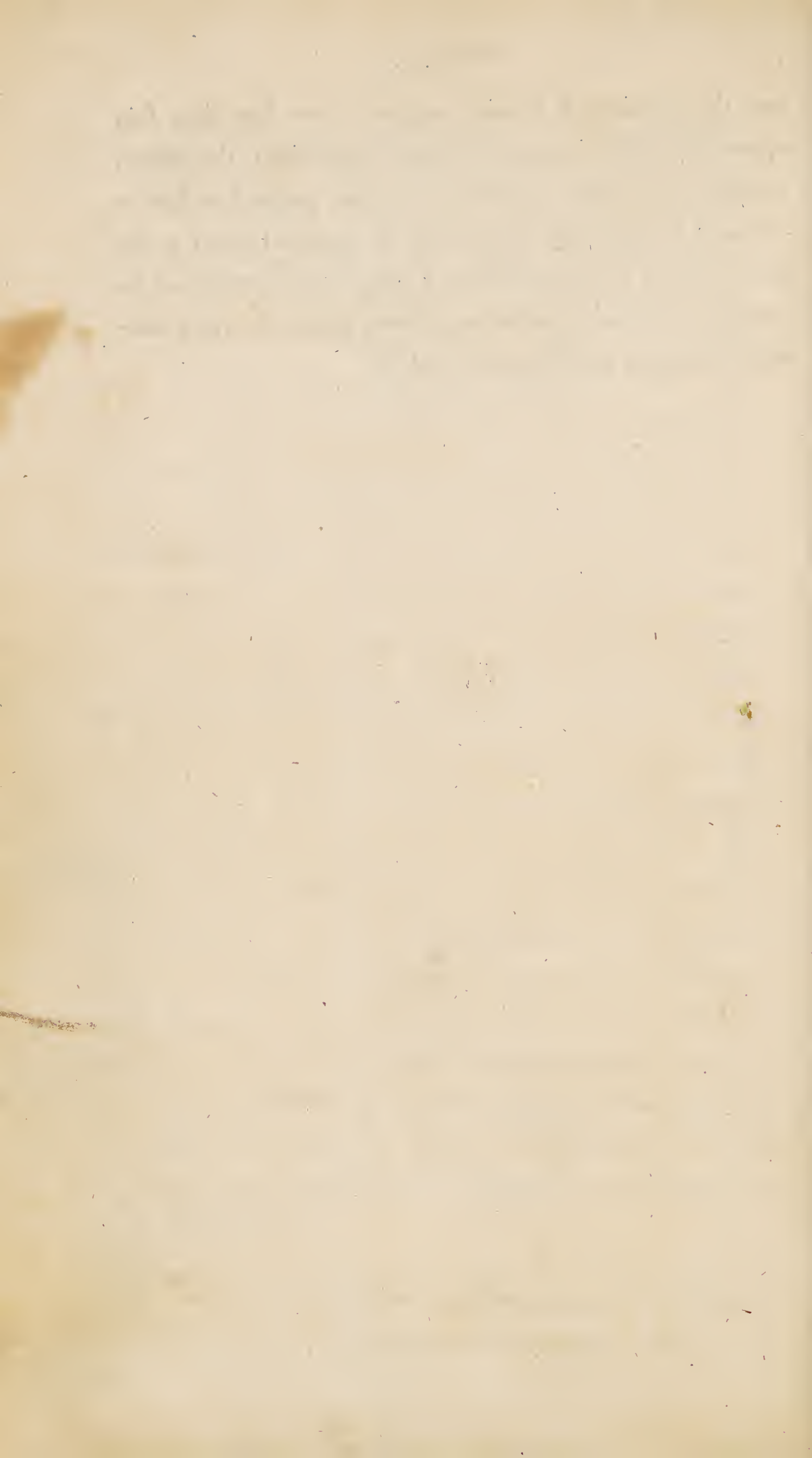
livity :—for this the work itself will speak. In the third place, to comment upon all public affairs which lie within the province of the Physician ; and in this it has already atchieved a considerable object, namely, the turning of public attention to the abuses of the TREAD-MILL, and thereby ameliorating the condition of an unhappy class of people. In the last place, the intent was to attack QUACKERY at its root ; and here also it has been successful ; for, when the MEDICAL ADVISER began its career the hydra was raging with unchecked rapacity, undermining the dearest possession of a simple and confiding portion of the public—devouring their life's blood—yet the monster shorn of many of its heads and stabbed in its most vital part, instead of mounting high and insolent, now drags its wounded length along, and looks with the yellowness of despair upon its speedy and certain destruction. Another session of parliament, it is to be hoped, will put an end to Quackery, for there is a petition, presented by Mr. Hobhouse, now in the house. The people's eyes have been opened to the dangers arising from the Quacks, and these impostors feel that their revenues are diminished. They are writhing and threatening, flattering and fawning—every fibre is at work to check the power of the MEDICAL ADVISER, and one of their most forward and hopeful exertions was a prosecution against the Publishers for damages, and an indictment against the Printer. The measure is half abortive already, for the bill of indictment was thrown out by the grand jury !

The plan of the work was original ; its execution pleased, and thus has it been pre-eminently successful. This success



## PREFACE.

was the occasion of forming against it no less than four opposition publications, all of which have failed: the Editor, therefore, feels fully the honor which the public has done to the work in thus supporting it, and he pledges himself to the best interests of that public, not only in the conduct of its columns, but also in affording private advice to every individual who may feel disposed to ask it.



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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

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VOL. II.



## THE SKELETON.

WHAT anatomists call a skeleton is the assemblage of all the bones of the human body, or, of those of brutes, stript of the flesh, and kept together either by their natural ligaments, or by artificial joinings; the difference of the substances which join the bones has laid a foundation for distinguishing two kinds of skeletons, the one natural and the other artificial.

The skeleton is generally divided into the head, the trunk, and the extremities.

The head comprehends the cranium and the face.

The cranium is a kind of osseous-box, formed of eight bones, these are the frontal, the occipital, the two parietals, the two temporals, the sphenoid, and the ethmoid bones.

The face is formed of the assemblage of several pieces, which are included under two principal ones called the jaws, one of which is the superior, and the other the inferior. The superior is composed of thirteen bones, namely, the two maxillaries, which are the largest and properly constitute the superior jaw bone, the two bones of the nose, the two zygomatic commonly called the cheek bones, the two ossa unguis, the two inferior laminae of the nose, the two bones of the palate, and the vomer, to which we must add sixteen teeth, to wit, the four incisores, the two canini, and the ten molares.

The inferior jaw consists of one single bone which also contains sixteen teeth, namely, four incisores, two canini, and ten molares.

The trunk may be divided into three parts, one common, called the spine, and two proper, which are the thorax or breast, and the pelvis or basin.

The spine is a bony column, composed of twenty-four vertebrae, distinguished into cervical, dorsal, and lumbar, and the os sacrum, to the extremity of which is joined another bone called coccyx.

The thorax or breast is formed by twenty-four ribs, twelve on each side, the seven superior of which are called the true, and the five inferior the

false or spurious ribs; by the sternum, which is generally composed of two pieces, and by the dorsal vertebrae.

The basin or pelvis is composed of two large bones, called the ossa innominata or the bones of the haunches, which are joined before, and behind are fixed to the os sacrum, which completely forms the pelvis.

The skeleton has four extremities, two superior and two inferior: each superior extremity is divided into the shoulder, the os humeri, the fore-arm and the hand.

The shoulder is composed of two pieces, one anterior called the clavicle, and another posterior called the omoplate, the arm properly so called consists only of one bone, called the humerus. The fore-arm comprehends two, called the radius and the ulna.

The hand is distinguished into three parts, to wit, the carpus or wrist, which is composed of eight bones, the metacarpus, which consists of four, and the fingers, which are five in number, and each of which is formed of three pieces called phalanges.

Each inferior extremity is divided into the thigh, leg, and foot. The thigh consists only of one bone called the femur. The leg is composed of two large bones called the tibia and the fibula, and a small one called the patella.

The foot, as well as the hand, is divided into three parts, to wit, the tarsus, the metatarsus, and the toes. The tarsus is composed of seven bones, namely, the astragalus, the calcaneum or bone of the heel, the os naviculare or scaphoides, the cuboides, and the three ossa cuneiformia.

The metatarsus is composed of five pieces, and the toes are five in number, the largest of which is composed of two bones, and each of the rest of three, which are called the phalanges.

There are also several little bones which are not generally preserved in the skeleton, such as the small bones of the ear, the os hyoides and the sesamoid bones.

We may easily compute the number of all the bones which generally compose the skeleton of an adult according to the enumeration I have made; namely, fifty-four in the head,



fifty-four in the trunk, taking the coccyx for one piece, and the sternum for two, and one hundred and twenty-four in the extremities, which in all make two hundred and thirty-two, to which if we add the eight bones of the ear and the three principal pieces of the os hyoides, we shall find that the total amounts to two hundred and forty-three, without including the sesamoid bones.

### SCROFULA.

(Continued for page 436, vol. I.)

THE languor and debility which prevail in scrofula, naturally indicate the necessity of employing a plentiful supply of wholesome nourishment in such quantity as the stomach can bear without being overloaded, and of this light animal food ought to form a fair proportion. The quantity must be regulated by the appetite and powers of digestion. Milk, puddings, rice, and other farinaceous substances, ought to constitute the remainder of the patient's diet. When there is occasional atony in the stomach and languor, a moderate allowance of wine will be likely to prove salutary; but it will be best to give it between meals with a bit of bread or cake.

To ward off an attack of the disease, in those who show a predisposition to it, it will be advisable that they take every day regular and moderate exercise, continued sufficiently long to dispose them to rest, without inducing any degree of fatigue. When the patient is either too young or too weakly to take sufficient exercise, by exertions of his own, external frictions, assiduously applied, and persisted in for a length of time are usually substituted, and in young children in particular, have been practised in many cases with a very good effect.

Another highly important external application is bathing the body; the bath may be either warm or cold, simple or impregnated with various medical substances. Cold bathing, especially in the sea, is a remedy universally employed in scrofula, and apparently with the greatest advantage in many cases, for it appears not only to improve the person's health and strength, but likewise to promote

the dispersion of enlarged glands, and the resolution of indolent swellings in the joints, even after they have attained a considerable size. But in order that cold bathing may be practised with safety and advantage, the constitution should have vigour to sustain the shock of immersion without inconvenience; if the immersion be succeeded by a general glow over the surface of the body, and the patient feels cheerful, and has a keen appetite, we may conclude the bath agrees with him; but if he shivers on coming out of the water, continues chilled, and becomes drowsy, we may be assured that the cold bathing will not prove serviceable, and ought therefore to be discontinued. In all weakly patients the immersion should be momentary.

When any doubt is entertained with regard to the probable effects of cold bathing, it will be a prudent precaution to premise the use of a warm bath, which is often serviceable in those cases of scrofulous weakness, which forbid the employment of a cold one. One great advantage of warm bathing, is to relieve a certain dryness of the skin, which often accompanies scrofulous emaciation and weakness, and occasion much oppression and distress. A small number of immersions is in general sufficient to accomplish the object and to prepare the patient for the safe and beneficial use of the cold bath, though when a great degree of scrofulous debility prevails, it may be necessary to continue the warm bathing at the rate of two or three immersions a week, for some time.

At the commencement of a course of warm bathing, an immersion of from twelve to twenty minutes, with a temperature of water varying from 90 to 100 of Fahrenheit's thermometer, may be recommended; but persons much accustomed to the practice of warm bathing in general, remain longer at a time in the bath, and use a higher temperature of heat.

To promote the efficacy of the warm bath, frictions, with some stimulant substance are often employed and with advantage, particularly in certain cases of scaly scrofulous eruptions, and some of the more solid kinds.

The clothing of scrofulous patients



ought to be of such a nature as completely to protect the wearers against any inclemency of the weather, and to keep them comfortable and warm. A flannel dress ought therefore to be worn next the skin in cold weather. The reason why weakly people so sensibly feel the vicissitudes of weather in this country is, that in general they are too thinly clad, and this inconvenience has been much encreased of late by the airy and light modern attire, adopted by our fashionable females. In very bad cases, a change of climate may be advisable; but when circumstances will not admit of this, artificial warmth by fires or a stove must be substituted.

Every weakly scrofulous person who wishes to recruit his health and strength, should retire to bed early at night, rise early in the morning, and if possible select for his residence a situation where the air is pure and dry. It is indeed the unavoidable lot of the poor in large towns, and particularly in manufacturing ones, to inhabit cellars, or other cold, confined, damp, and ill-ventilated places.

It is generally recommended to scrofulous persons, who use sea bathing, to drink a little of the water daily, that it may act as a gentle purgative, and empty the intestinal tube of all feculent matters. When not at the sea-side, a solution of any of the neutral salts, such as the potassæ tartras, potassæ sulphas, &c. may be substituted.

The submuriate of mercury is, however, by far the most celebrated of all the purgative medicines which have been employed in the treatment of scrofula, and it is undoubtedly a serviceable remedy in many stages of the disease. To enjoy its beneficial effects, however, with safety, there must be care taken to avoid giving it in so large a quantity as to produce the specific effects of mercury to any extent; for it is well known that any deep mercurial impression on the system aggravates every symptom of scrofula. The hydrargyri submurias however, when cautiously used in moderate doses, so as to act merely as an alterative, or gentle purgative agrees, well with scrofulous complaints, and greatly contributes to discuss tumours, and

resolve indurations of such a nature. But to produce the desired effect, this alterative course must be continued for a sufficient length of time, carefully watching its effect, lest it should exceed the prescribed bounds, and produce any ptyalism or severe purging. The dose must be regulated by the age of the patient, and other circumstances. A few weeks trial will be sufficient to determine the probability of its removing or relieving the complaint.

To be Continued.

### ON ANTIPATHIES.

SINGULAR as it may appear, yet it is not the less true, that there are found persons, who assume all the appearance of terror upon the approach of things utterly unworthy of regard, of an apprehensive nature, and as incapable of giving any ground for fear; for instance, the "poor beetle which we trample under foot," should it cross their walk, or an insect which lives in mid air, should it wing its way within the compass of their sight, immediately betray all the symptoms of the most unjustifiable cowardice, and shrink from it as from some imminent danger. Though such may be found among the male sex, it is more frequent to be traced among the females; when observed in the former, how contemptible it makes them appear; and to what cause we know not to ascribe it, neither can imagine how such trifles should terrify; it is beneath the dignity of man, a stain upon the noble rank he bears in creation, to behold him shrink with horror, from what, by its very constitution, and the very order of things, is under his controul, subject to his will, and in his power either to save or destroy; the latter we hope his humanity will prevent; and his delight to see the creatures over whom he has power inspire the former, when he observes the helpless reptile in need of an assisting hand, and study not willingly to injure that, which should he hurt it, is not in his power to heal; he may preserve life, but cannot give it; but there are those, whose timidity would equally prevent the one as the other: did they but reflect, they must undoubtedly see the folly and ridiculousness of such



an ungrounded cause of alarm and absurd exposure of their temerity.— Among the females it may be accounted for, we think, upon the ground of a false delicacy. A lady brought up in the modern school of refinement, imagines she must show her sensibility, and not let an object pass her eye, which at all assumes an unpleasant or disagreeable form, without shrinking from it with abhorrence; thus a poor harmless reptile, which ought to interest by its singularity, or attract by its complicated form, and should become the object of curiosity and observation, is passed by with manifestations of disgust; thus preventing the possibility of becoming acquainted with its, perhaps, wonderful organization; which but for such a ridiculous ostentation of refined delicacy, might have conveyed to the mind much valuable knowledge by its singular habits, and prove the source of much rational speculation, or excite a desire to obtain a nearer and more complete conception of its manners and pursuits; when probably many a valuable and useful hint in the economy if its life might be observed, which, by a reflecting mind, might be improved and rendered expedient to adopt in many concerns connected with our comfort. All this, the folly of many prevents: how often has that poor and harmless insect the spider, met an untimely death, solely owing to these absurd antipathies. What creature, if attentively surveyed, can be more beautiful; how variegated are its colours, how diversified its marks, and singular its mode of life; it spins its web, and waits with the utmost patience, to entangle some wandering fly, on which it feeds; what doth it in this more than other brutes? Doth not the lion prey on its brother brute, the towering eagle on its sister bird, the ponderous whale and ravenous shark, upon the finny tribes, that swim the deep? And man, even man, doth he not feed, too, on what once had life? Does he not make all nature pamper to his taste, and yield its produce for his use? Why then should a poor reptile be scorned the more, for what his very judge thinks it not wrong himself to do? A frog, too, how often has it unwittingly thrown many a fantastic lady into a fainting fit, and

caused much more concern than has the tidings of a fellow creature's death: should it deign to hop across her path, she shrieks, and soon are all her nerves unstrung, till hartshorn, air, and water renovates her frame. If we tell those who show so dastard a timidity of their folly, some specious plea they have to meet your observations; they will talk of their weak nerves, their debilitated system, their natural antipathies, and other reasons too numerous to mention, as irremediable, and not to be overcome, which is generally false; for the truth is, they neither wish or try to be dispossessed of them, imagining it adds an interest, and excites a sympathy for their terrors. But still it makes not the folly less, nor renders false the assertion, that such ridiculous fears may be irradiated. I have known it done, and by those who possessed a weak nervous system too; for the truth was, they liked to show how refined was their susceptibility, and how acute their feelings: until they were brought to see unreasonableness, they could no more bear such sights than others; but upon reflection, being convinced of its absurdity, they, by determined efforts of their minds, when their antipathies presented themselves, and calling forth the dignity of their nature with a resolution to conquer, they overcame all, and at length could behold, calmly and without dread what had oftentimes formerly brought on fits of fainting, and alarmed those near them by their sudden shrieks, and loud exclamations of terror.—To the timid and the affected Antipathist we would say, and with which we conclude “go thou and do likewise.”

T. N.

June, 1824.

### FOOD POISONED BY COPPER VESSELS.

MANY kinds of viands are frequently impregnated with copper, in consequence of the employment of cooking utensils made of that metal. By the use of such vessels in dressing food, we are daily liable to be poisoned; as almost all acid vegetables, as well as sebaceous or pinguid substances, employed in culinary preparations, act upon copper, and dissolve



a portion of it; and too many examples are met with of fatal consequences having ensued from eating food, which had been dressed in copper vessels not well cleaned from the oxide of copper, which they had contracted by being exposed to the action of air and moisture.

The inexcusable negligence of persons who make use of copper vessels has been productive of mortality, so much more terrible, as they have exerted their action on a great number of persons at once. The annals of medicine furnish too many examples in support of this assertion, to render it necessary to insist more upon it here.

Mr. Thiery, who wrote a thesis on the noxious quality of copper, observes, that "our food receives its quantity of poison in the kitchen by the use of copper pans and dishes. The brewer mingles poison in our beer, by boiling it in copper vessels. The sugar-baker employs copper pans; the pastry-cook bakes our tarts in copper moulds; the confectioner uses copper vessels; the oilman boils his pickles in copper or brass vessels, and verdigris is plentifully formed by the action of the vinegar upon the metal.

"Though, after all, a single dose be not mortal, yet a quantity of poison, however small, when taken at every meal, must produce more fatal effects than are generally apprehended; and different constitutions are differently affected by minute quantities of substances that act powerfully on the system."

The author of a tract, entitled, "Serious Reflections on the Dangers attending the Use of Copper Vessels," asserts that a numerous and frightful train of diseases is occasioned by the poisonous effects of pernicious matter received into the stomach insensibly with our victuals.

Dr. Johnson gives an account of the melancholy catastrophe of three men being poisoned, after excruciating sufferings, in consequence of eating food cooked in an unclean copper vessel, on board the Cyclops frigate; and, besides these, thirty-three men became ill from the same cause.

The following case is related by Sir George Baker, M. D.

"Some cider which had been made in a gentleman's family, being thought too sour, was boiled with honey in a brewing vessel, the rim of which was capped with lead. All who drank this liquor were seized with a bowel cholic, more or less violently. One of the servants died very soon in convulsions; several others were cruelly tortured a long time. The master of the family in particular, notwithstanding all the assistance which art could give him, never recovered his health, but died miserably, after having for almost three years languished under a most tedious and incurable malady."

Too much care and attention cannot be taken in preserving all culinary utensils of copper, in a state unexceptionably fit for their destined purpose. They should be frequently tinned, and kept thoroughly clean; nor should any food ever be suffered to remain in them for a longer time than is absolutely necessary to their preparation for the table. But the sure preventive of its pernicious effect, is, to banish copper utensils from the kitchen altogether.

The following wholesome advice on this subject is given to cooks by the author of the excellent cookery book we have before quoted.

"Stew-pans and soup-kettles should be examined every time they are used; these and their covers, must be kept perfectly clean and well tinned, not only on the inside, but about a couple of inches on the outside; so much mischief arises from their getting out of repair; and, if not kept nicely tinned, all your work will be in vain; the broths and soups will look green and dirty, and taste bitter and poisonous, and will be spoiled both for the eye and palate, and your credit will be lost; and as the health, and even the life, of the family depends upon this, the cook may be sure her employer had rather pay the tin-man's bill than the doctor's."

The senate of Sweden, in the year 1753, prohibited copper vessels, and ordered that none but such as were made of iron should be used in their fleets and armies.



## FRENCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Continued from p. 440, Vol. I.

THE following Table is an extract from the registry of the Lying-in Hos-

pital at Dublin, which will clearly prove that no other institution of a similar description in all Europe can rival it in the annual number of births:—

Number of Women delivered.		Infants born.	Boys.	Girls.	Women delivered of Twins.	Infants dead.	Infants born dead.	Women dead after accouchement.
1805	2220	2270	1239	1031	50	51	138	12
1806	2406	2451	1247	1204	45	43	151	23
1807	2511	2555	1306	1249	44	50	145	12
1808	2665	2707	1374	1333	42	49	149	13
1809	2889	2935	1493	1442	45 (1 deliv. of 3.)	45	165	21
1810	2854	2896	1546	1350	42	54	179	29
1811	2561	2613	1363	1250	52	50	169	24
1812	2676	2724	1408	1316	48	45	137	43
1813	2484	2544	1366	1178	59 (1 deliv. of 3.)	74	125	62
1814	2518	2553	1323	1230	35	86	139	25
Total.	25784	26248	13665	12583	462	547	1497	264

Since 1757, the year in which this hospital was founded, upwards of NINETY THOUSAND females have been therein delivered, and the above Table is the proportionate calculation of births and deaths during the last sixty years.

The average of male infants to those of the other sex, is as *ten to nine*; the proportion of infants dead after birth, is *one to sixteen*; of infants dead-born, as *one to eighteen*; of women delivered of twins, or of *triple* births, as *one to fifty-seven*.

Of women who have died in child-bed, as *one to ninety-three*; twenty-two women have been delivered of *triple* births, *one* only has had *four* at a birth.

This hospital is supported partly by voluntary contributions, and partly by government. The accoucheur physician-in-chief resides in the hospital, and is removed every *seventh* year; his two assistants remain also only for a similar period.

The simple cases of accouchement

are superintended by young students, many of whom reside in the hospital, and also by other out-door pupils, of three, six, and twelve months standing. The recompense which they give for the privilege of attending the practice of the physician-accoucheur, is the only remuneration that he receives during his seven years' residence in that department. No female is admitted until she feels the throes of labour approaching; and the carriage which conveys her from her place of habitation to the hospital, is fitted up with every accommodation for a lying-in bed-room. Although the number of pregnant women who are annually received at the *Dublin* hospital exceeds by one fourth that of the "Hospice de la Maternité" at Paris, there are more beds in the latter establishment than in the former. I cannot avoid here noticing the "School of Midwifery," which is the most extensive and considerable in the *three* kingdoms. This one hospital of *Dublin* is almost as large, as the *four*



*lying-in hospitals* of LONDON put together!!

I now resume my observations on the "Hospice de la Maternité" at Paris. In passing through the wards of the accouchement division, I was surprised to see that the women recently delivered had not their infants near them; very few of those women suckle their offspring, they are therefore removed to the nursery-division, where other mothers apply to be admitted as wet-nurses, and give the breast to an infant who is most frequently not their own.

The nursery division is in fact a *foundling* hospital, since, exclusive of those infants whose mothers, after recovery, leave them behind, children under two years old are received from without, whose parents wish to be relieved from supporting them. A portress receives them at all hours of the day and night, without any written certificate of the parentage of the unfortunate babe, thus consigned to the support of public charity. When those children are of a feeble constitution, one or two of them are entrusted to a resident wet-nurse; the most healthy are sent to country nurses, who arrive daily, by dozens to *sell their milk* at the hospital. I leave it to any reflecting mind, how far those mercenary women can feel an affection for these poor orphan nurslings.

According to the report and calculation of the *student midwives*, twelve thousand individuals, infants or adults, are received annually at the "Hospice de la Maternité;" and out of this number, they declare that upwards of *four thousand* are abandoned by distressed or unnatural parents.

Epidemical diseases frequently exist in extensive hospitals. The *puerperal* fever sometimes makes fatal ravages at the "Hospice de la Maternité," and also at the "Lying-in Hospital of Dublin."

But a disease, which seldom makes its appearance, except in foundling, or other hospitals for infants, has carried off a considerable number of persons in "La Maternité;" I allude to the hardening of the cellular substance. This disease most frequently attacks the extremities, oftentimes the neck,

the face, and the abdomen. The parts affected become inflated, hard, cold to the touch, of a murky-red or livid colour, and do not yield to the pressure of the fingers. When the lower extremities appear spotted by it, the sole of the foot becomes convex. The dissection exhibits the *mesenteric* glands, and generally all the lymphatic glands very much developed; the cellular tissue swollen by a yellowish serousness coagulable in boiling water. This disease, when the cheeks are affected by it, presents many symptoms analagous to those of

The appearance, the position of the body, and the sensations excited by the touch, are, very different in the two affections. The dissection also proves their nature to be of a distinct kind, for in the tetanus we very seldom find any phenomenon against nature when we perform the

The *trismus nascentium*, or infantile lock-jaw, attacks a great number of newly-born children in the "Dublin Hospital;" and although I have attended at the opening of the bodies of different subjects that have died victims to it, I never discovered the least morbid alteration in the throat, neck, thorax, abdomen, or in any other part of the body.

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## DIET AND REGIMEN IN FEVERS.

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In the management of fevers, one of the greatest errors is to administer wine and nourishing diet during its first period, with a view of counteracting the imagined debility, at a time when the whole system, oppressed by the action of the causation of the disease, must be overwhelmed by additional excitements, and too nourishing diet, which greatly increase all the attending symptoms; particularly heat and dryness of the skin, thirst, head-ache, delirium;—hurrying the milder, into the most dangerous petechial form of the disease. Want of appetite is one of the symptoms prominently complained of by the friends



of the sick at every visit made by the medical attendant. It is a popular notion, that if the patient would but eat, his recovery would be speedy; and no sooner does the appetite fail, than the cook, the confectioner, and chemist, are called into action to redress this *atrocious calamity*, and caudles, condiments, and tonics, pave the way for bleeding, purging, and water-gruel! The idea, however, of strengthening the patient at this time, by giving him nourishment, is rendered in a great degree impracticable by nature having wisely deprived him of appetite for food, which salutary monition should be observed; —the only nourishment at this time nature requires, is water, toast-water, thin gruel, rennet-whey, ripe fruit, and pure air. The way for friends to serve the patient infinitely most at this time, is strict attention to his personal comforts, such as frequent changes of clean linen, bed-clothes, &c. and a kind supply of these is necessary; and while we endeavour to avoid absurd and exploded doctrines of former ages, we should as much as possible combine ancient experience with modern improvements.

Sydenham, complimented by the title of the *English Hippocrates*, has given so exact a description of this simple mode of cure, that it would have been fortunate for the human race had all succeeding authors only copied him, or otherwise merely improved upon his practice. “Frequently,” says he, “when called to persons of low circumstances, I order them to do nothing else, after bleeding and vomiting, when necessary, but to keep their bed, during the whole course of the distemper, and to sip only barley-water, gruel, and the like; to drink moderately of small beer, to quench their thirst, and to exhibit a clyster of milk and sugar every day. Towards the end of the fever, I allowed them now and then a little stronger malt-liquor,” in place of “cordials;” such as the monstrous alexipharmics, the *Venice Treacle*, *Cordial Water of Saxony*, &c., the supposed preservatives from contagion, or to correct or expel it from the body, with which substances all-

powerful fashion then rendered it requisite to drench such as could afford to be poisoned. Whereas in our days the tonic, or what is commonly called the *routine practice*, viz. indiscriminate, or premature and destructive libations of wine, every four hours a bark draught, particular doses of camphor, jalep and opium, succeeded the alexiterical stimulants of former ages; to which erroneous notions, professional as well as popular, the lives of millions of human beings must since Sydenham’s time, 1689, have fallen a sacrifice; which awful fact might be readily proved from induction and mathematical calculation.

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### OF HANGING.

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THOUGH this is a very common mode of violent death, it is seldom that we hear of it as an act of homicide. The majority of cases in which we are called to assist investigation, belong to suicide. As, however, persons have been murdered even in this way, it ought to be noticed here.

Hanging implies the suspension of a person by means of a cord or other ligature round the neck; whereby the usual circumstances of suffocation are induced, accompanied by some that are peculiar to this mode of taking away life.

These are, for the most part, a discolouration and impression upon the neck, made by the cord; lividity of the upper part of the body; distortion of countenance; swelling and projection of the eyes, while sometimes they are suffused with blood; the tongue is occasionally wounded by the convulsive motion of the jaws, and frequently thrust out of the mouth. Sometimes the cartilages of the larynx are fractured; and luxation occasionally occurs among the vertebræ of the neck, generally between the atlas and dentoides. This luxation chiefly takes place in heavy persons, or in those who may have fallen from a height upon the end of the rope, or where attempts have been made to hasten death by increasing the weight of the body. So violent also is this sort of death, that fæces, urine, and semen, are often expelled. These, and whatever other marks may indi-



cate death, by hanging, there have been ample opportunities of verifying in the bodies of criminals who have undergone the sentence of the law.

Some authors, (and among others Plouquet,) consider pressure on the brain as the *ratio moriendi* in this sort of death. Death by suffocation, in whatever way, may be accompanied by apoplexy, as a link in the chain of phenomena.

Two questions call for solution here—1st. Was the person alive when suspended, or hung up after death? 2d. Did he hang himself, or was he hung by others?

First. Was the person suspended while yet alive, or had he been previously killed in some other way, and then placed in this situation to avert suspicion?

We may consider the appearance of the characteristic marks in the body, unattended with other derangements, as conclusive with regard to the prior part of the question. But perplexity may arise when these, or part of them, are found in combination with other signs of violent death. Where a body is found suspended, and none of the tokens of this species of death are discoverable, it may be safely assumed that the person was not alive when hung. We must then seek for a different cause of death. It may be poison—and this is to be suspected where no marks of external violence are visible. What our duty is in such a case need not be repeated.

There may be wounds, or bruises; of the fatality of which we must judge from the circumstances already mentioned, in reference to bodies found in the water. It is, however, possible, that perplexity may arise here; for there have been instances where wounds have been inflicted while the person was actually suspended; even by his own hands. De Haen records the case of a suicide, who, while hanging, inflicted several wounds upon his face. These, however, we can hardly suppose to have been the real cause of death. In such a case, the extent of the wound, and the parts concerned, would point out the true cause. Wounds in the

throat, to a certain extent, are not necessarily mortal.

Wounds may, in such cases, be accidental. Dr. Male supposes one in which a person by swinging himself off with violence, may break the rope, and wound himself by falling upon articles of furniture; yet afterwards hanging himself again.

Where the person has been hanged alive, we might expect to find the discolouration caused by the rope, very distinct, and passing all round the neck, because the blood forced out of the vessels while yet in circulation, must be in greater quantity than it could be after circulation has ceased. Some discolouration, however, will take place even then, though to a less degree, and in an interrupted line. The perplexity most likely to arise will be in cases of homicide of this kind where the person is first strangled and then hung. Of strangling I shall presently speak; in the meantime it is necessary to observe, that if we discover two circles round the neck, the one lower and more discoloured than the other, with the marks of death by suffocation, such, perhaps, ought to be the conclusion. It will be strengthened by the absence of injury among the cervical vertebræ: some who have examined particularly into cases of this nature, deny that luxation takes place from mere suspension, without additional violence, but as we can hardly suppose a case of homicide by suspension, in which such violence will not be resorted to, the absence of luxation, combined with the *two* marks, will corroborate the conclusion that the deceased was first strangled and then hung.

Secondly. Is it a case of homicide or suicide? Was the person forcibly killed in this manner by others, or did he hang himself? Except in the instance of children, or of persons extremely feeble, such as the diseased, exhausted, or intoxicated, it is very difficult to hang an individual against his will, unless the situation be remote, and no interruption likely to take place; or the assailants be numerous and powerful enough (as in the notorious instance of Porteus) to set all interference at



defiance. Dexterity, despatch, and apparatus of some kind, must be necessary in all such cases; nay, it is perhaps not going too far to say, that a man cannot be hung alive by others, unless his hands be previously tied, and probably his legs also. Let it be granted, however, that the thing has been done, and the body is afterwards discovered hanging, and quite dead. In addition to the intrinsic evidence from inspecting the state of the parts, the external circumstances must be taken into account. The character, situation, and previous state of mind, of the deceased; the place in which the body is found; and the attendant marks of robbery, together with other considerations, will assist the enquiries of justice. To these may be added the signs, or absence of signs, of scuffle and resistance; if in the open air, the state of the ground, and if in an apartment, that of the furniture, which may be supposed to be in confusion—(though cool and crafty murderers might be attentive to this circumstance)—and in all cases the state of the hands and dress of the deceased will probably indicate the fact of resistance—and *vice versa*.

People have been *accidentally* hanged, for the most part through imprudence; as in the instance of the boy mentioned by Dr. Male. This has frequently occurred among children, from an ignorant curiosity, which, in places, where the event is rare, prevails among them, when a public execution takes place. We can hardly ever suppose it to arise from *pure* accident; for people never have occasion to fasten one end of a rope round their necks, and the other to a fixed point, unless with some design. A girl, aged thirteen, came by her death, however, in this way in April, 1821, in Northamptonshire. She was swinging in a brew-house, and near the rope used by her for that purpose, was another for the purpose of drawing up slaughtered sheep. In the course of the exercise her head got through a noose of the second cord, which pulled her out of the swing, and kept her suspended at a considerable height till dead.

Attempts have been made to prevent criminals from paying the for-

feit of their lives to justice, by securing them against the full effects of suspension. In what way this may have been done, I need not explain; but such attempts may be rendered completely abortive by the executive power, if suspicion be excited. Whether in any instance the project has actually succeeded, is perhaps scarcely to be ascertained. It is one, however, in which no professional man of character would chuse to be concerned. On the other hand, there seems good reason to believe that means have been successfully employed for the resuscitation of some who have apparently undergone the sentence of the law; but this is a point belonging rather to the curative art, and more allied to criminal than legitimate deportment on the part of the medical practitioner.

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

MALICIOUS and incorrect statements tending to injure the character and prospects of Mr. Friedeberg having been submitted to the Public through the Medium of your Journal, I take the liberty of offering a few remarks which I trust, in common justice to the individual, you will do me the favor to insert.

Cordially as I participate in the feelings and motives which actuate you in the exposure of empiricism, and ready as I shall always be found in using my humble efforts towards the destruction of those nests of infamous pretenders whose artifices are but too successful in producing devastation on the purses and constitutions of the deluded and unwary, I am still inclined to pursue that system of generosity which I consider due from man, to man, by investigating with accuracy and minuteness any statement or representation made to me against an individual, before I hold him out as an example for public censure. Unwilling as I am to sanction any innovation on the regular line of practice adopted by my professional brethren, I think there are to be found many, so innovating, who are more entitled to esteem, than reproach; and in the present instance it is in my opinion corroborated by professional men of ta-



lent and reputation, that every merit is due to Mr Friedeberg for the great exertions he has made in obtaining professional acquirement.

In submitting to your consideration the knowledge I have of Mr Friedeberg, and my opinion of his character; it is not my intention to enter into the minutiae of his puerile occupations, or attempt to refute the malicious and false observations made upon them,—What the Man is, not what he was, is the present question; for, did I feel inclined to delineate the origin and profession of conspicuous individuals, I might trace amongst our first characters the peasant's rise to nobility, the growth of the druggist's boy to one of the first chemists of the age, rich in intellectual endowment, the pride of science, and the friend of merit. How many of our own profession who are now moving in an elevated sphere, owe their rank in society to some adventitious circumstance, but for which, their talent would have remained in obscurity and perhaps indigence been their portion. If we look back to the early period of Sir M T Y's life we find him a tradesman in no very extensive line in a village a few miles from Limerick; but his mind soaring beyond the circumscribed limits of a counter, led him to embrace that profession in which he has long proved himself an ornament. When an Assistant Surgeon in a Militia Regiment accident introduced him to Royalty, and the known discrimination of that Monarch, about whose person he is almost the constant attendant, is the best proof of the superiority of his talent. Is there not, then, greater merit due to the man who rises by his own industry, than to him, who, born in the lap of affluence, with all the advantages of early education, meets with prosperity, without being obliged to seek it.

Accident introduced me to Mr. Friedeberg near three years since, when he was about taking the house he now occupies: at that period he was commencing his studies under the different professors of anatomy, medicine, &c. and with a view of enabling himself to complete that edu-

cation he had commenced, he engaged a gentleman of known professional talent who had been a surgeon in the navy, and was for a considerable length of time my assistant to conduct a practice he was endeavouring to establish. On this gentleman quitting him, he connected himself with Mr. Sloane, who has since conducted it to the satisfaction of those who have been under his care: during the whole of this period Mr. Friedeberg has been engaged in attending the different classes, and by his unremitting assiduity and attention has obtained a general knowledge of his profession, and in many points is better qualified to practice it than numbers whose diplomas stare you in the face the moment you enter their surgery. Mr. Friedeberg has often asked my opinion on different cases, and subjects; I have had frequent opportunities of observing the treatment pursued in a variety of diseases under the care of Mr. Sloane, and have not found it differ in point of correctness and liberality, from that of the most popular and respectable practitioners. In Mr. Friedeberg's house I have often met, and held long converse with professors, and medical men of character and reputation, whose unprejudiced minds, and liberal sentiments, have induced them to enter upon terms of intimacy, and advocate the cause of him, whose correct conduct, and indefatigable exertions to become master of his profession, entitles him to the esteem of those who know him. At this momentous crisis of his life, the hand of calumny is busy in repudiating his character, and by malicious and unfounded insinuation, attempting to prejudice those minds against him, who are to judge, whether, or not he is entitled to receive that reward of competency he has sought, by labor and perseverance. This is a cruelty and injustice seldom to be met with, and which has induced me, unasked, unsolicited, to offer to the public view, that fair statement which I trust may be successful in removing the veil of prejudice which has been so unjustly drawn before him.

Should my humble efforts prove



successful, it will produce that consolation, which is generally the result of an impartial act.

As the case of Mr. Harrop inserted in one of your Numbers, was somewhat similarly misrepresented, and met your support in contradiction, I trust I do not appeal in vain for a similar act of justice in this, which, if necessary, will be corroborated by other signatures.

With every wish for the completion of the work you have undertaken.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

H. R. NEWBOLT.

June 7th, 1824



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### THE JORDAN.

[The following letters will prove beyond a doubt—if doubt ever did exist—the dreadful evil which walks abroad in this man. Good God! We shuddered as we read them.]  
—ED.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

CONCURRING in opinion with you, as to the propriety of exposing the nefarious practices of the notorious nostrum venders of the present day, and conceiving I shall be rendering a service to society through the means of your valuable publication, I beg to send you the following particulars, the truth of which I pledge myself to prove. A friend of mine (who is since dead) was some time since, advised to try the effect of Dr. Jordan's Rakasiri, he accordingly purchased a small bottle from the agent, in Gloucester, on application for a second, he could not get a supply; in conse-

quence, he wrote to Jordan, stating the particulars of his case; the reply was a strong recommendation to persevere in the use of such medicines, that he, the doctor, should send to him, intimating, also, that a day's neglect might be fatal; I think it my duty, says the *worthy doctor*, to inform you, that your case being of a very particular nature, it requires the medicine to be prepared with additional ingredients, the use of which I have no doubt, will be the means of restoring you to perfect health; the doctor, also informed him, that a packet of necessary medicines should be prepared, *the amount of which would be ten pounds*; this on the receipt of my friend's remittance was to have been sent to him immediately, my friend conceiving the sum exorbitant, sent a five pound note, requesting the worthy gentleman to send medicines to that amount; but instead of complying with his request, a letter was sent acknowledging the receipt of the five pounds, and stating the ten pound's worth of medicine had been made up for him, therefore, they could not think of dividing it; my friend's suspicion was now fully awakened as to the honest intentions of this unprincipled man. I saw this letter, and I assure you, I felt with my friend, a degree of indignation sufficient to have addressed him in the way we conceived his conduct merited; yet, we well knew, we should have a difficulty in devising any plan to get the five pounds returned, as the old adage is, a drowning man will catch at a straw; so it was with my unfortunate friend, who conceiving he had found benefit from the first bottle he had taken, was induced to suppress his feelings on this occasion, and write to the doctor a third time, soliciting him to send the five pounds worth of medicine, stating it was very inconvenient for him at present, to send the remaining part of the money; but assuring him, should the medicine prove beneficial, he would send for the remaining part immediately on this being used. In consequence of this letter, and after nearly a fortnight's delay, this trash was received, with a strong injunction from this fellow, not to fail in sending for the remain-



ing medicine. I have only to state to you, that after taking half a bottle of this compound, he was obliged to desist from the increased irritability caused by its use, and in six weeks after was a corpse; any farther information I can give you, by addressing a letter for me, Bell Hotel, Gloucester, I will most readily give. I beg leave to subscribe myself,

Your most obedient servant,

J. H.

Gloucester, May 22nd, 1824.

[The letters signed "Jordan," are written in a clerk-like hand, but signed by a different.] ED.

*Mr. William Binning.*

LONDON, 13th April, 1822.

SIR,

I HAVE received your letter of the 9th instant, by which I find that you are seriously afflicted with a cough, shortness of breath, hoarseness, and I have no doubt that I may add, that you have likewise a general debility of the whole system, which I am sorry to inform you, are very dangerous symptoms, and require more than common skill to cure. I find that you have taken some of my balm of Rakasiri, and that it has given relief; but in your case, relief is not sufficient,—I must endeavour, with the assistance of God, to restore you to perfect health. It is however a pleasure for me to hear that the medicine you purchased from my agent has had a good effect, as from the least improvement may be hailed an assurance that the active principles of health are not yet lost to the constitution. I was glad to find that my agent had no more family bottles on hand, as it caused you to write and state your case to me. I have no doubt but the Rakasiri would be of essential service to you; but as you have written to me respecting your complaint, I consider it my duty to inform you, that your case being of a very particular nature, it requires the medicine to be prepared with additional ingredients, and which I have not the least doubt will be the means of restoring you to perfect health; and I am firmly of opinion, that unless the plan which I shall adopt is immediately attended to, I do not hesitate to say, that your disorder is likely to terminate

in pulmonary consumption. I shall prepare for you a packet of the necessary medicine, which will

and, on receipt of your remittance, shall be immediately forwarded to your address, with proper advice and directions for taking the same. I must further beg to remark, that every hour's delay on your part may be attended with serious consequences, I therefore should strongly recommend you to write by return of post, and by the time your letter comes to hand, the medicine will be quite ready to be forwarded to you.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

C. J. JORDAN.

No. 9, Great Surry-street,  
and 28, Berwick-street, Soho.

*Mr. William Binning.*

LONDON, 19th April, 1822.

SIR,

I HAVE this post your letter of yesterday; and as you say it is really out of your power to send the remaining five pounds for the whole of the medicines prepared on purpose for your case, I have, though with a very great deal of extra trouble, in consequence of its being prepared with additional ingredients divided it, and sent you three bottles; this I have done in consideration of your family, and a full reliance on your word as a respectable tradesman. I must beg to remind you, that no delay must take place on your part in taking this medicine; you must send for the remaining package before you finish this, as the good effects you may derive from this package will be completely lost if you deviate in the smallest degree from the directions which are sent. Trusting to your punctuality,

I remain, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

for Dr. J. C. JORDAN,

W. H. BOOTH.

No. 9, Great Surry-street,  
Blackfriar's Bridge, and  
28, Berwick-street, Soho.

P. S. Take one table-spoonful of this medicine four times a-day, according to the directions. (!!!)

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

BEING a subscriber to your truly



valuable and widely circulated publication, it is with pleasure I find you continue to lay before the public the vile practices of the quacks; and I think it must be a pleasing thing for you, Sir, to reflect upon the good you have done, and which I hope you will continue to do, in thus exposing them, for which you are entitled to the best thanks of the community, and I may safely say you have them. I beg to draw your attention to my case:—

A young man of my acquaintance unfortunately, some time ago, purchased that infamous work, the “Ægis of Life,” by Goss and Co. a work, from the appalling manner in which it paints the effects of a certain vice, is intended to act in a very forcible manner upon the fears of the young and the credulous, and by holding out, at the same time, a speedy remedy, has, I am afraid, been the means of inducing thousands to apply to them. The “Ægis” acted upon my fears in such a manner, that from the moment I read it, I determined to consult them. I accordingly enclosed a one pound note, stating my case to be a relaxation of the system, occasioned by some irregularities at school; by return of mail I duly received a packet of medicine, which contained,

One bottle of drops,

Two boxes of pills (one box of red, and one of black pills,)

Six papers of lotion powders (I think they are alum,)

with a letter containing directions and advice, viz. two black pills to be taken in the morning, and two red pills in the evening, and a tea-spoonful of the drops to be taken immediately after each dose of the pills, (a lotion powder had to be put into a quart of water, with a pint of which the loins and private parts were to be bathed for two or three minutes every morning), and stating, at the same time, a future packet would be five pounds. The first packet lasted fifteen days; and when I wrote for a second one, and got it, I continued taking of the second packet nearly four weeks (six weeks from my commencement.) One evening I took the drops and pills as usual, and was awoke in the middle of the night with a violent pain at my stomach, and for three days I was so unwell that I could

take nothing but tea; my complexion was completely sallow. I instantly left off taking their *stuff*, and by using opening medicine I got well, till about a month after, when I had a most severe attack of the jaundice. It was so inveterate, that seven weeks elapsed before I recovered, during which time I was so yellow that I could not attend to my situation.

For six weeks, 42 days

I took 4 pills per diem, two black and two red pills.

—  
168=14 dozen.

After swallowing 14 dozen of pills, wonderful effects might be expected, and they were indeed wonderful to me, viz.

Jaundice, or liver complaint.

Indigestion.—(the pills have destroyed my digestion.)

Constitution.

This is indeed bracing the system, and restoring manly energy with a vengeance;—but so it is, I have a small portion of their medicine left, which I will take especial care of, and perhaps I may find out what it is. There is nothing but truth contained in this letter, and which I am ready to confirm by oath; and if, at any time, an affidavit from me on this subject would be of service, please, in your Notice to Correspondents, to say so, and I will instantly send you one. It is my opinion, that murderous swindling firm of Goss and Co. will assume some other name. Their swindling I would freely forgive; but, good heavens! to reflect upon the condition to which they have reduced me by their pills, is unbearable. My digestion is so completely destroyed, that I cannot get a passage through my bowels, without taking medicine of an opening nature—a melancholy spectacle indeed for a young man of twenty years of age. I may thank myself for it. I have only to add, that you have my best wishes for your prosperity.

J. B. C.

Darlington, May 31, 1824.





## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY

### APOTHECARY'S BILL.

#### *Brown v. Robertson.*

Mr. Clarkson stated that this was an action against the defendant, book-keeper at the Three Cups, Aldersgate, for medicines supplied to the defendant and his wife to the value of £7 3s. 10d. The defence was that the defendant was a minor, and that the plaintiff had not been qualified according to the apothecaries' act.

Mr. John Pearse stated that he employed the plaintiff as apothecary in 1813 and 1814. (The Act of Parliament was in 1815.)

Cross-examined by Mr. Gurney.—Mr. Brown was then with Mr. Longmore; I cannot tell whether Mr. Brown was employed by Mr. Longmore, or received payment for Mr. Longmore.

Mr. W. Hitchcock, clerk in a

banking-house, employed the plaintiff in 1813.

Cross-examined.—He did not keep a shop then.

Mr. Longmore.—The plaintiff was not in my service in 1815. He had come to me in 1811.

Cross-examined.—I took him only as a shop-boy. He came from Mr. Pearce's, the oilman's, to me.

There being no proof that the plaintiff had acted for himself before 1815, he was called.—Nonsuit.

*Dr. Brodum* has communicated to us some facts upon the subject of an article which appeared in our last. We are never hasty, and shall therefore give it due consideration in our next.

*Abominable Superstition.*—At the last execution of criminals at the Old Bailey, several persons afflicted with wens appeared on the scaffold, in order to rub the dead criminal's hand to the exorcism, in the hope of obtaining a cure. We hope the sheriff, Sir Peter Laurie, who took such trouble to improve the apparatus for hanging, will now do justice to the good sense of the age we live in, by putting a stop to this abominable and stupid practice. It is shocking to humanity, and cannot be of the least benefit.

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## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. C. S. sufficient if he could only think so.

VENABLE'S American cough-medicine, is principally composed of opium; and, therefore, as a general remedy is dangerous.

ANTI-EMPYRIC—We mean "CATON," the advertising humbug, No. 6, Norfolk-street, Strand.

Let H. B. follow the plan laid down in page 338 of the MEDICAL ADVISER.

A. Z. will oblige us by his notes on "BRODUM."

G. H. F. may take 15 grains of cream of tartar, in half a pint of water daily, for a week.

NEMO.—Thanks.

A SISTER may take half a cup of senna-tea every second day, for a week.

J. W.—Let him follow the directions to H. B. in this Correspondence.

C. H. (a subscriber,) must send an address.

Did GEORGE ———, at Mr. D—Y's, Mount-pleasant, receive an answer?

A. L. B. should blister his breast, and when the blister is healed, should follow the plan laid down in page 338 MEDICAL ADVISER.

W. J. R. has obliged us, the communication shall be inserted.

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THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
AND  
GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 31.]                      SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1824.                      [Price 3d.



ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS.

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SCROFULA.

(Continued from page 4, vol. II.)

IN recent cases of obstruction, the submuriate of mercury joined with tartarised antimony, has been used with benefit in scrofula; and during the progress of the disease, when there is much irritation, or where there are deep-seated affections of the joints, opium has been added.

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Other alteratives, such as the hydragryrus cum sulphure, Olummer's pill, as likewise antimonials, with decoctions of guaiacum, sarsaparilla, sassafras, dulcamara, and mezerion, together with the Lisbon diet drink (which is a combination of these) have likewise been much employed, but usually without any seeming advantage.

Muriated barytis is said to have



been given in some cases of scrofula with success ; the proper dose is from three to ten or twelve drops twice a day, according to the age of the person ; beyond a certain dose it is apt to occasion sickness, tremors, and a loss of power.

The muriate of lime, we are given to understand by Mr. Wood, has been much employed at the Newcastle Infirmary, in lieu of the muriate of barytes, and with two great additional advantages, viz. its action was more immediate, and no bad consequences attended an over-dose, while at the same time efficacy was decisive. He used it at first in the form of crystals, by dissolving three grains in an ounce of water ; but he found the process of crystallizing the salt to be too tedious and difficult for general use, and that it did not possess any advantage over a fluid solution of the carbonate of lime in muriatic acid. Of the solution prepared agreeably to the Edinburgh pharmacopœia, about a drachm for adults, and thirty drops for children, given in water, twice or thrice a day, will be a sufficient dose.

A late writer on scrofula tells us, however, that the muriate of lime had been employed by his colleague, Professor Thomson of Edinburgh, in various cases of this disorder, without having derived benefit from it in a single instance.

Medicines of the narcotic tribe, but more particularly hemlock, have also been used for the cure of scrofula, both in the stage of swelling and ulceration ; and it appears when administered internally, to prove often serviceable in discussing swellings of this nature, and it likewise appears in some cases of ulceration to have afforded relief, by being employed externally, either in the form of poultice or fomentation, or both ; as an internal remedy in the ulcerated stage of scrofulous tumours, it seems to be inefficacious. It has, however, been considered by a modern writer as an useful auxiliary in cases of great irritation, particularly if combined with calomel or preparations of iron, when either of these remedies is indicated.

To enjoy the full benefit of the curative powers of hemlock, it will be necessary to give it to the full extent that the constitution can bear with impunity ; the limit of the dose, therefore, is to be measured by its effect in producing incipient symptoms of giddiness or nausea, which disturb the functions of the head and stomach ; the course requires to be continued many weeks before the good effects of its operation are perceptible.

The juice of the fresh leaves of the tussilago, or colts-foot, is said to have been given with some advantage. When it cannot be procured in the fresh state, a strong decoction of the dried leaves may be substituted.

Lime-water and alkalies, as the soda carbonas, subcarbonate of ammonia, &c. are enumerated among the remedies often used in this disease, and administered, no doubt, under the supposition of an acid acrimony prevailing in the fluids ; in some instances, a junction of soda with cinchona has been attended with a very good effect.

In a small work lately published, the successful treatment of several severe cases of scrofula, by means of the internal use of caustic alkali, in doses proportioned to the age of the patient, with the external application of small quantities of mercurial ointment at the same time, and which are mentioned to have resisted all other remedies, is laid before the public ; the following is what was employed. Quick lime two pounds, American potass, six pounds, wood-ash, two pounds, boiling water, six gallons ; the water is directed to be boiled in a tin-kettle, adding the lime by little at a time, the whole being properly slacked ; the pearl ashes are to be put in, the mixture well stirred together ; and then to be put into an earthen jar or pot, well glazed in the inside, with a wooden spicket and faucet fixed in it, to draw it off when wanted. The dose is a small tea-spoonful, or a drachm by measure, for children from four to six years old ; one tea-spoonful and a half for those from six to eight ; two



tea-spoonsful for those from eight to fifteen, and in the like proportion to those of more advanced age; the medicine is to be taken twice a day, in a little malt-tea, barley water, or thin gruel.

Burnt sponge is another remedy which has been much administered in scrofula, and frequently with advantage; it may be given either in the form of a bolus, or draught, as follows:—Burnt sponge, from a scruple to half a drachm, powder of rhubarb, three grains, honey, a sufficiency to form a bolus; let this be taken twice a day; or burnt sponge, one scruple, aromatic confection, ten grains, mint water, one ounce, to one ounce and a half, mix them as a draught, and let this be taken twice a day. A more active medicine, however, is the soda carbonas, which is now employed in lieu of the former, of which, indeed, it is the basis; the dose in these cases, is from ten to twenty grains to a drachm, twice or thrice a day, as follows: Carbonate of soda, three drachms, powder of peruvian bark, one ounce and a half, mucilage of gum acacia, a sufficiency to form an electuary, of which let the bulk of a nutmeg be taken twice a day.

(To be continued.)

### INSANITY.

THIS unhappy condition disqualifies for the discharge of every civil function, even to the management of one's own estate and the care of one's personal safety. By universal consent also, a person in this situation is considered unfit for social liberty, and is not held responsible for criminal acts. It is, therefore, a subject which frequently calls for judiciary enquiry.

The disordered state of the intellectual faculties admits of two well-founded distinctions—alienation and fatuity—or the subjects of enquiry may be separated into those who are *mad*, and those who are *idiots*. Insanity manifests itself under a great variety of forms, while the disease remains identically the same; and although some who have paid much attention to it dis-

countenance the distinction of *melancholia* from *mania*—still, as the view which is here to be taken refers to the ability which persons afflicted with mental disorders possess as to the care of their affairs and of themselves, and also to their capacity of distinguishing between right and wrong, I shall separate the details into the following heads—*mania*, *melancholia*, and *fatuitas*—not disputing the propriety of withholding pathological distinction.

#### OF MANIA.

BY mania is to be understood that state of the intellect which is denoted by ferocity in the language and deportment of a person formerly mild, or in the habit of conducting himself according to the usages of civilized society.

In addition to this general ferocity, or outrageous deportment, the following physical peculiarities are very remarkable: a wildness in the expression and a protrusion of the eyes—resistance, and insensibility to cold, to sedative and other applications that generally exert a powerful influence on the system—frequent neglect of food, and long fasting without any apparent inconvenience. If proper observation is paid to the maniac, it will be seen that these are continued for a length of time, that simulation cannot maintain—added to which there is great and inimitable watchfulness. But while long fasting is a characteristic of mania, we must not omit to observe, that an unusual voraciousness, and propensity to swallow indiscriminately whatever comes in the way, is also an occasional mark of this disease. In their discourse, maniacs generally betray a great want of coherence; more or less frequent and remarkable according to the degree of the disorder.

The maniac is to be distinguished also by the usurpation of one idea over all his faculties, which powerfully influences his speech and conduct. Of course his reasonings are absurd, either in themselves, or in their relations. To this hallucination he is ever prone to recur, and



he is far more the sport of its impulse than healthy minds are acted upon by any impression however powerful.

Whatever may be the predominant chimera, it often happens that the maniac will reason correctly from false premises; but frequently the disease may not be apparent, from the propriety with which the patient will discourse and conduct himself on all other subjects and occasions, until the morbid notion is either excited, or obtrudes itself.

These hallucinations may be as numerous as the subjects of thought or feeling, and, therefore, the distinctions that have been attempted in madness, according to the predominant idea, are quite inadmissible. "A man whose hallucination is politics, is mad exactly in the same way as the man whose hallucination is law." But there is a great variety of forms in which the disorder manifests itself; depending in some measure upon the temper and disposition of the patient. He whose passions are strong and propensities depraved in the ordinary state, and more especially who is not much disposed to regulate or restrain them, will become the furious maniac: and there are others, whose natural disposition and whose imagination are fraught with an agreeable bias, who will probably enjoy that

"Pleasure in madness

Which none but madmen know."

With regard to the *diagnosis* of madness, I shall convey all that seems required to be said here in the words of Dr. Johnstone. "In *delirium* there is an obvious bodily disease, which occasions a peculiar action of the brain: there is no one predominant idea, but a wild and incoherent jumble of ideas. In madness there is frequently no visible bodily disease; there is always some predominant idea: external objects make nearly the same impression as when the mind is whole, till the hallucination interferes and deranges all the trains of thought with which it is intermixed. From *idiocy* madness is readily distinguished. The idiot cannot reason,

the madman reasons falsely; the idiot acts from animal appetency, he has no will; the madman wills, but his reason being disturbed, his actions are not suitable to the actual relations of society.

"In appearance too, the discriminating marks are striking. The *delirious* is flushed with fever, or shrunk with emaciation and debility; the *madman* stares wildly, sometimes gaily, sometimes gloomily; the *idiot* is pallid, and often deformed, his countenance unmeaning, and without illumination, gaping, drivelling, grinning."

Like other diseases, this one seems to have its pre-disposing and exciting causes.

It is not the disease of any particular temperament: and perhaps the most common predisposition is connected with an obscure, and, as far as the patient is concerned, an inevitable formation of the parts more immediately implicated. This he derives from his progenitors. The hereditary nature of insanity is fully established; but perplexity may sometimes be occasioned where the existing members of the person's family have not shewn any symptoms of the disease, and both his parents have passed through life without any suspicion of the kind. It may, however, lie dormant in one generation and break out in another, as we find to be the case with gout, scrofula, and other complaints, that are well known to be entailed in families. There may be a disposition which fortunately has never been subjected to the influence of exciting causes, but which would readily manifest itself if acted upon by them.

Injuries about the head often lay the foundation of future derangement of intellect. Perhaps these belong with equal propriety to the class of occasional or exciting causes. A blow on the head, where hereditary disposition is supposed to exist, is often the exciting cause—but on the other hand, persons who have not only been uniformly sane during the prior part of their lives, but belonging to families that had never shewn any disposition to



the disorder, have become permanently deranged for the remainder of their days, in consequence of fracture of the cranium, or other injuries to the cerebral organs. In such cases, organic derangements have been discovered after death. With regard to diseases predisposing to insanity, we need not stop to make any particular observations. The removal of the cause here may be supposed to remove the symptoms, and this among the rest. Besides which, the propriety of classing this sort of mental derangement with the insanity now under consideration is more than questionable. It may, however, be added, that the pre-existence of mania is often the only discoverable ground for apprehension of its appearance in the same person.

Among the exciting causes may be mentioned whatever produces mental uneasiness. People are in quaint but significant language, said to be "driven mad" by misfortunes. Bodily pain is also said, though erroneously, to *madden*; for the furor here is merely over-excitement, not perversion. Apprehension of death has often "turned the brain;" but rarely in the ordinary contemplation of it. This has generally happened when the accompanying circumstances have been connected with peculiar and terrific events. The horrible scenes of the French Revolution produced permanent intellectual derangement in numerous instances.

The use of intoxicating liquor to a person disposed to insanity is almost uniformly pernicious. How frequently do we meet with those, to whom in their ordinary deportment these remarks are inapplicable, who when under the influence of strong drink comport themselves like maniacs of the most formidable description! Such derangement as this would not be admitted as a plea for exemption from punishment. The mischief actually perpetrated may, indeed, be done under the impulse of derangement, but that impulse was called up by a voluntary act on the part of the individual—which act being in itself cri-

minal, for all its consequences he must necessarily be held responsible.

Among the exciting causes of mania, the suppression of accustomed evacuations must be considered; and the restoration of these often removes the mental affection.

It not unfrequently manifests itself in the puerperal state.

LUNACY is a term in very common use to denote *insanity*; and is derived from a notion that the disorder depends on or is connected with the changes of the moon. This must be rejected without qualification; but there is a very general belief in temporary insanity, of which it is sufficient, perhaps, to say, that there must be such an appearance where there is but a single hallucination.

If I rightly understand the author already quoted, who has written so sensibly on this subject, and who says that "madness has no *lucid intervals*," it appears that what have been so designated are but the remission of symptoms; and that a man at these times is as certainly mad, as another one is under the dominion of an ague, between the paroxysms, as well as during their continuance. "A man," says he, "at any given moment is either mad or not—his brain and sensorial powers must either actuate him to the actions of the sound mind or not. He may appear rational when he is not—he may converse upon indifferent subjects with apparent reason one minute, and the next may strangle you in a fit of frenzy! But can this be termed a *lucid interval*!"

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#### THE DEVIL SUPPOSED TO BE A CAUSE OF GHOSTS.

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ALL metaphysical, all physiological, and all chemical opinions, having been, by various philosophers, considered as perfectly inadequate to the explanation of ghosts, it was asked, why the existence of them should not arise from the direct agency of the devil himself?

Some pneumatologists maintained that the devil was a slender and an



incomprehensible spirit who reigned in a thousand shapes, and, consequently, might assume, if such were his pleasure, the form of an angel. They taught that unclean spirits insinuating themselves in the body, and mingling in its humours, sported there, with as much glee as if they had been inhaling the brightest region of the stars; that they go in and out of the body as bees go in and out of a hive;—and hence that melancholy persons are most subject to diabolical temptations. To this doctrine, taught by the learned clerks of the 16th and 17th century, Hamlet evidently alludes, when he conceives that it might have been “a damned ghost” which he had seen, or the result of some diabolical art operating through the medium of his *fantasie* or imagination.

Accordingly the regular plot of the drama turns upon the test to which the veracity of the apparition is submitted. The trial is satisfactory, and Hamlet declares that he will “take the ghost’s word for a thousand pounds.”

Such were the views which never failed at one time to excite the suspicion of persons labouring under spectral impressions; and it is painful to contemplate them as they arose in the minds of many eminent individuals, among whom was Martin Luther, who was evidently affected by some organic disease, which, having co-operated with the extraordinary intellectual exertions he underwent during the progress of his wonderful work of reform, appears to have at intervals materially disturbed the usual state of his thought. This astonishing man, who, according to the doctrine of the times, ever contemplated his zealous labours as opposed to the works of the devil, was particularly inclined to attribute the illusions under which he laboured to the machinations of evil spirits. One anecdote to this effect I find thus stated: “Luther has related of himself, that being at prayer, contemplating how Christ hung on the cross and suffered for his sins, there appeared suddenly on the wall a bright

shining vision, and therein appeared also a glorious form of our Saviour Christ, with his five wounds, steadfastly looking upon him, as if it had been Christ himself corporally. Now at the first sight he thought it had been some good revelation, yet presently recollected himself, and apprehending some juggling of the devil, (for Christ, as Luther says, appeareth unto us in his word, and in a meaner and more humble form, even as he was humbled on the cross for us,) therefore, said he, I spake to the vision in this manner: ‘Away, thou unfounded devil, I know no other Christ than he that was crucified, and, who, in his word, is pictured and preached to me. Whereupon the image vanished, which was the very devil himself.’”

The devil was also supposed to occasionally induce illusion by self-transformation, as the following curious story, to be found in Captain Bell’s *Table-talk* of Luther, sufficiently shews.

“A gentleman had a fine young wife, who died, and was also buried. Not long after, the gentleman and his servant lying together in one chamber, his dead wife, in the night-time, approached into the chamber, and leaned herself upon the gentleman’s bed, like as if she had been desirous to speak with him. The servant (seeing the same two or three nights, one after another,) asked his master whether he knew, that every night a woman, in white apparel, came into his bed? The gentleman said, ‘No. I sleep soundly (said he), and see nothing.’ When night approached, the gentleman, considering the same, laid waking in bed. Then the woman appeared unto him, and came hard to his bed-side. The gentleman demanded who she was? She answered, ‘I am your wife.’ He said, ‘My wife is dead and buried.’ She said, ‘True, by reason of your swearing and sins I died; but if you would take me again, and would also abstain from swearing one particular oath, which commonly you use, then would I be your wife again.’ He said, ‘I



am content to perform what you desire.' Whereupon his dead wife remained with him, ruled his house, laid with him, ate and drank with him, and had children together. Now it fell out, that on a time the gentleman had guests, and his wife after supper was to fetch out of his chest some banquetting stuff; she staying somewhat long, her husband (forgetting himself,) was moved thereby to swear his accustomed oath; whereupon the woman vanished that instant. Now seeing she returned not again, they went up into the chamber to see what was become of her. There they found the gown which she wore, half lying within the chest, and half without; but she was never seen afterwards. '*This did the devil,*' (said Luther): 'he can transform himself into the shape of a man or woman.' "

## FRENCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Continued from p. 8, Vol. II.)

### LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

"*LA SALPETRIERE*," at Paris, receives between four and five thousand individuals within its walls. This establishment resembles a small village, from its extent of building.

Notwithstanding the great success of the *nosography* of Monsieur *Pinel*, in France, this work is scarcely known in our English schools, where we have for a long time followed the *nosology* of *Cullen* only. We shall, doubtless, have lost little in not joining in the enthusiasm which the classification of the Parisian profession has excited during the last twenty years; since we shall sooner or later be of the opinion of Monsieur *Broussais*, who declares, that, for some years past, *philosophical nosography* has retarded the progress of medicine. But, as the author of the treatise on "*Mental Delusion*," as the humane benefactor of that unhappy class of mankind, (lunatics) in the abolition of the barbarous practice of cruel treatment towards them, the name of Monsieur *Pinel* has oftentimes been mentioned in Eng-

land, and in every civilized state of Europe, with praise and admiration.

No work on this melancholy, but important subject, has produced a more happy result, as to the treatment of those afflicted beings for whose benefit it was written, than that of Monsieur *Pinel*.

The administration of the lunatic asylums, "*Charenton*," "*Bicêtre*," and "*La Salpêtrière*," was organized conformably to the truly philanthropic principles laid down and recommended by Monsieur *Pinel*. These three establishments have since been considerably improved and enlarged, to such an extent, that they now contain about two thousand lunatics of both sexes. Upwards of eight hundred patients are under a course of medical treatment, by the advice of Monsieur *Pinel*. They are no longer sacrificed to the unfeeling prejudice which made them appear heretofore, as dangerous, malicious, and above all, incurable. Monsieur *Pinel* has removed the chains which bound, mutilated, and exasperated those unhappy sufferers. Their keepers are no longer armed with the bludgeon. We must declare, that the French have complimented us beyond our deserts, in praising our hospitals of *Bedlam*, *St. Luke*, and also the grand Lunatic Asylum at *Manchester*. It was not until after the hospitals of Paris were visited that any amelioration had taken place in those establishments. For a long time those alterations in mode of treatment, &c. were deemed so necessary, that a certain member of the House of Commons was at last forced publicly to declare, that no establishments had caused greater disgrace to the country than those lunatic asylums which we had the effrontery to propose as a model to other nations.

The asylum "*La Salpêtrière*" receives females only, viz. idiots, epileptics, women in fevers, and old women in an infirm state. Monsieur *Esquirol* aids Monsieur *Pinel* in his duties of physician-in-chief to the lunatics, and Monsieur *Landré-*



*Beauvais* is his worthy coadjutor in the clinical departments of the infirmary of "La Salpêtrière."

The clinical lectures of M. Pinel were formerly much regarded; but his old age must soon oblige him to retire from his labours. His former pupils leave him daily to encrease the number of those of M. Broussais. This gentleman, perhaps, too frequently forgets, in his public lectures, that respect which is due to the grey hairs of the eminent author of the Treatise on "MENTAL ALIENATION."

### SCHOOL FOR MIDWIFERY.

M. BAUDELLOCQUE was to the last moment of existence a zealous professor of the School for Midwifery. A thesis, written expressly on that branch of science, is delivered to each pupil on her admission to the hospital.

This is an institution, whose novel and excellent plan in regulations, mode of administration, and the great benefits arising to society by its establishment, are honourable to the character of the nation which has founded and continues to support it. It is an important matter, in my opinion, that the practice of midwifery is at last entrusted to females in preference to our sex, provided those who exercise it possess the necessary skilful qualifications in that branch of the profession. The system of this school is a sure guarantee against unskilful practitioners. It cannot be doubted that the pupils in midwifery who receive their diploma from this hospital are fully capable of undertaking the most arduous case in midwifery; it will, however, always be repugnant to my feelings to see the timid hand of a woman armed with an anatomical scalpel.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

#### *Lime Water for the Scurvy.*

We do not approve of lime water, taken internally, in any case. The kidneys are endangered by it.

*Brown Bread instead of White to promote Digestion.*

If it be made from genuine materials, it is excellent.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

#### *A Laxative Powder or Vermifuge.*

Of jalap, senna leaves, and cream of tartar, equal parts.

An adult may take half a drachm to two scruples; children of from two to four years of age, from ten grains to fifteen, and so on in proportion. This is a very good powder for worms.

#### *A Stomachic Draught for Costive Habits.*

Tincture of bark, one drachm.

Tincture of senna, two drachms.

Tincture of rhubarb, one drachm.—

Mix, and take as a cordial.

### CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

As you refuse to give up the name of your correspondent (Cathartic) whose communication appeared in the Medical Adviser, of May 15th, relative to my professional as well as moral character, I hereby request you to insert the following statement of facts, which I have no doubt will prove to your own satisfaction and that of your readers that in this case you have been most grossly imposed upon.

"We, the undersigned, do hereby certify from our own personal knowledge, that Dr. Campbell came to reside in this town about six years ago; that from the first he commenced practice as a physician, occupied a very respectable house, kept his own horse, and supported himself in every way becoming the dignity of his profession; and we hereby further certify, that so far from concealing his diplomas, they were openly exhibited at a public and respectable vestry meeting, held in the parish church, about five years ago, when the parishioners were about to appoint medical gentlemen to attend upon the poor of the parish, along with certificates of at-



tendance upon the following courses of lectures, which we have again examined; anatomy and surgery, chemistry, principles, practice and operations of surgery, institutions of medicine, materia medica, pharmacy and dieteticks, medicina practica, midwifery, botany, clinical surgery, and attendance on the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.

As witness our hands,  
 Samuel Higginbottom, Croft-house.  
 James Higginbottom, Park-brow.  
 Justice Southam, surgeon.  
 John Wood, Old-hall.  
 John Harrop, Stamford-street.  
*Ashton-under-Lyne,*  
*June 7, 1824.*

The above is a true copy of the original certificate.

JAS. MELLOR,  
*Attorney at law,*  
*Ashton-under-Lyne.*

“We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that Dr. Campbell has resided in this town about the space of six years, and that he has always conducted himself soberly, honestly, and respectably, in short, in every respect becoming the profession to which he belongs. As witness our hands, this 17th day of June, A. D. 1824.

John Hutchinson, Minister of the Established Church.

J. M. France, ditto. ditto.

Jon. Sutcliffe, ditto. Independent Chapel.

John Gaskell, ditto. Unitarian Chapel.

John Ramsay, ditto. Scotch Presbyterian Chapel.

Jas. Latrobe, ditto. Moravian do.

The above is a true copy of the original certificate,

JAS. MELLOR,  
*Attorney at law,*  
*Ashton-under-Lyne.*

As to my professional abilities I can with pleasure refer you and your readers to the following highly respectable medical gentlemen:—viz. Dr. S. A. Bardsley, late senior physician to the Manchester Infirmary; Dr. E. Holne, senior physician to the Manchester Infirmary; Dr. J. Hull, F.L.S. physician to the Lying-in-hospital, Manchester,

and to the Institution for curing Diseases of the Eyes; and Mr. Simmons, senior surgeon to the Manchester infirmary, with each of whom I have repeatedly met in consultation.

Your inserting the above in your next Number of the Medical Adviser will oblige,

Your's, &c.

JOHN CAMPBELL, M. D.

*Ashton-under-Lyne,*  
*June 15, 1824.*



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

THE table of Messrs. Knight and Lacey, our publishers, absolutely staggers beneath copies of writs served upon them by the quacks. There has been an eternal going in and going out of attorneys and their adjutants for the last fortnight, at 24, Paternoster Row, and all about our “Annals of Quackery!” We shall not be far astray if we prophecy, that these proceedings, like the tenor of the quacks’ calling, are mere puff. We are not to be frightened by threats in the cause we advocate, nor do we dread even the formidable arena of a court of law, confident as we are that outraged justice would spurn the reptiles upon which we have so effectually trodden, should they creep in beneath the judgment-seat to insult it with their mockery. The smutty Goss is to be the first to dare the experiment; and as we have no doubt that the numerous sufferers from this branch of quackery will feel happy in its defeat, we request they will forward to us all the information in their power which may tend to annihilate this nest of roguery. The Kent Road quack has, we are informed, given up his intention of prosecuting us; but we



are yet threatened by Friedeberg, his father, the Jordans, and Dr. De Brodrum; Shades of Esculapius and Galen protect us from this battery of poisonous pills!!! Spirits of Copley, Scarlett, Brougham, and Phillips, grant us our *brief* prayer—deliver us, we beseech ye, from our enemies—the quacks!

LOLLYPOP is outrageous, because we commented upon his practice in such a manner as we felt it our duty. We have before us now seven cases, which, had he seen, he would think us charitable, and thank us for not speaking more fully. The case of opening the child's head, in which the prudent advice of Dr. Bartlett had a *timely* effect, is in our possession; but we refrain from publishing it, and the other cases, for a week or two.

*The Lamerts in our next.*

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I AM a constant reader, and, for the most part, a great admirer, of your very useful and entertaining little Miscellany. Amongst other useful objects you appear to keep in view, are, first a noble attempt to annihilate quackery in all its branches; and, secondly, the correction of dishonour, where it is detected, in the regular practitioner. A well selected case of the latter description will be seen in your last Number, and as to the former, I am quite sure your steady perseverance has already been productive of much good. In those praiseworthy undertakings I wish you every success; but, Mr. Editor, there is a very numerous proportion of practitioners on whom you sometimes exercise a good deal of useless and uncalled-for severity, I mean those gentlemen who are entitled to practice under virtue of an exception made in the Apothecaries' Act, declaring all those established in practice before the first of August, 1815, should be allowed to continue. It is now nine years ago since the passing of this act, and if the legislature, in the exercise of its wisdom, (their particular attention having been drawn to the subject), thought it expedient to let

this large proportion of practitioners continue, it must certainly *now* be very unjust to dispute either their right or their capability,—their right having been proclaimed in the senate, and their capability must materially have increased after nine years farther experience.

I have said I thought your attacks upon this class of medical men *useless*, I mean by way of deterring others from making farther innovations; the law as it stands at present is quite efficient for this purpose. I have been led to these observations in part, by reading an article in your 27th Number, headed, "The Lollypop Surgeon," wherein a surgeon of Hatton Garden is said to have deserted a woman in labour, because, forsooth, his fee was not forthcoming. Now, if this is correct, I think he richly deserves exposure and its consequences, and would have done so, had his medical education been ever so regular; but had the recital of this outrage on every feeling mind been given without any allusion to his former station in life, it would have appeared rather that you had been actuated by a sense of public duty as a Journalist, than private invective.

I shall at all times be most happy to lend my feeble aid towards the exposure of quackery, and shall begin by inclosing a circular sent to the father of a young lady, whose marriage was announced in the newspapers a few days before the receipt of this precious specimen of infamy and indecency. I shall make no comment on the wretched impostor who wrote the inclosed, other than just to draw your attention to his extreme cunning. Thus, you will observe, that no anonymous letters can be sent him; if you choose to communicate with him, it can be done only by means of his own envelope, which you see is scrawled over with characters which it would be utterly impossible for any one to copy, without his immediate detection. I have torn off the direction of the gentleman to whom it was sent for obvious reasons, but I observed that



it bore the Chelmsford post-mark, and the expence of postage agreed with the supposition of its having been put in the post-office at that town. I trust, by giving publicity to this document, you will put the medical gentlemen who reside in that neighbourhood on the alert, and that thus it will not be long ere this wretched impostor is brought to light, as it is evident he is in the habit of sending his fulsome trash to the parents of any young people whose recent marriages reach his knowledge, either by announcement in the public prints or otherwise. If you think any part of the above worth your insertion, you will oblige,

Sir,

Your humble servant,  
PILL-BOX.

#### THE CIRCULAR.

*Circular No. 1075, May 20, 1824*

—Be pleased to accept congratulation, and a proposal, *in case of being* at any time *wanted*, (to remedy defect of the antecedent of gestation) of which the operation may be between parties materially unseen, and in presence of a third person.

The expense of a journey, *if wanted*, and recompense of operation, may be by an half note of Bank of England inclosed, post free, to your

FEMMES PRECOUCHEUR.

DOCTOR HEALEY, Q. R. F.

*Surgeon-Dentist and Man-Midwife,  
late Check-ingham Weaver and  
Twister-in.*

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

WE have in this town (Oldham, near Manchester) one of those mischievous animals, a quack-doctor; and thinking that a short biographical notice of one of the most ignorant, impudent, and unprincipled impostors in existence, might not be unacceptable to you and your readers, I take upon myself to shew up this bastard pretender to the order of the pestle and mortar; and having read my hasty and imper-

fect sketch, should you think as I do, no doubt but the Doctor will obtain a place in "QUACKS CORNER," and his biography become a subject for dissection and inspection amongst your readers in this part of the country.

The person of the subject above-named, who is not inappropriately bedecked with the appendant designation of Q. R. F., (quack, rogue, and fool!) is short, but something exceeding *four feet*; his countenance, to a nice observer, a complete index of his silly, vain, and empty mind; his dress not unbecoming his station—coat and small-clothes *shabby genteel*, with boots goloshed times out of mind; cane brass mounted, which, as he parades the streets with head erect and duly pointed toe, he contrives to give a most peculiar twirl; his hands are bedecked with a profusion of pinchbeck rings, the pride of his little soul. You cannot approach this pigmy personage but (fearing you should not observe these fit ornaments of his greatness) he will raise his ring-hand, and, by a graceful movement, stroke his Sunday-scraped chin—a hem! to call your attention as he stalks along; and should you have occasion to speak with him, a compliment which he is excessively proud of, you will find him, by his *own* account, invariably over head and ears in business. Some marvellous accident has occurred—some lady near the hour of her accouchement—some great cure in hand—"So, a hem! good bye, Sir, the Doctor must be going!" and thus he leaves you, wondering at the assurance of the conceited coxcomb. Having said so much of the Doctor as he *is*, it may not be amiss to inform you what he *WAS*, and you will doubtless say what he now ought to be, instead of what he appears.

The humbug commenced his career very harmlessly in the town of Middleton, near this place, in the humble occupation of a check-ingham weaver; but incapacity, or a natural laziness of disposition (for "*little Joe Healey* would never work," quoth his neighbours), induced him early to quit the loom,



and seek a precarious subsistence amongst his friends and neighbours as a *twister-in* (a class of idlers so denominated among weavers, as having no settled employment, but earning their bread with their coat on,—farthing jobbers, and news-mongers to the craft); but this easy life could not last for ever, or Joe Healey had now been the happiest man alive;—he fell in love, his Venus returned the compliment, and—in short, they got married; with marriage came a family, to provide for which put our hero to his shifts. Many a hearty and contented meal has he made on thin oatmeal porridge or gruel (mind, I do not say his wife fared thus), and many and often are the times he has begged the luxury of a piece of oatcake from his neighbours. Thus situated, can it be wondered at if he attempted a change of condition? He commenced “Doctoring in all its branches” with some half dozen old phials, pill boxes, &c. at first only *selling*, but afterwards *prescribing* and *administering* such “physic and sitch like stuff” as his means would afford as a stock; for instance,—*salts, jalap, cream of tartar*, &c. As his fame spread, his practice, and, of necessity, his stock, increased; and to give still greater *eclat* to his professional pursuit, he joined the methodists, and from a noted idler, drunkard, debauchee, and Tom-fool of the rabble, he became, in addition to his other acquirements, one of the greatest saints in the town, frequenting the meetings of that sect, and praying with a fervour and devotion that astonished and confounded every one, lived discreetly, prayed devoutly, and whenever he appeared in the streets his step was slow and solemn, his gait most studiously graceful, his large grey eyes, (which bespoke him the very pink of piety) invariably elevated on high, his hands clasped, as if wrapped in divine meditation, as much as to say, “Behold the man after God’s own heart!” Yet, “tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Askelon,” the moment his towering hopes and fairy dreams were crushed (for he

avowedly aspired to nothing less than becoming the spiritual as well as the bodily physician of his religious townsmen), he became the very reverse of the picture,—frequented the ale-houses, sang songs to *hymn tunes*, and again became what he *before was*, and NOW IS, the laughing-stock of all around him.

His fame and fortune were again at a low ebb, his occupation nearly gone, when his pot-companions clubbed their mites, and purchased a sign-board for him, with a suitable device, beginning,

“Is there no balm in Gilead?

O yes; Dr. Healey liveth here,  
He can cure you—never fear,” &c.

This, together with several rustic songs or puffs in praise of his genius, skill, and sagacity, (written by a clever fellow of his acquaintance, for *the Doctor could not write his own name*), printed copies of which he carried about in his pocket, for the purpose of distribution, which at night he would sing at the ale-house, with his face blackened, hair powdered with chalk and candle-grease, and hat cocked,—a trick very frequently put upon our Doctor when the fumes of sixpenny ale had overpowered his “modicum of sense.” During this ceremony some one would apprise “our Martha” (his wife; compared to whom, he is as a mole-hill to a moving bog) of his situation; her approach would be presently announced, which always carried terror to the very soul of her otherwise brave spouse, whom she would seize by the collar, and having dragged him home, there, perhaps, contend in mortal combat with her, “lord and master.”

As a specimen of his filthy puffs, the following may serve; they were written by wags merely to ridicule him, but, strange to say, the filthy fellow felt flattered by them, and absolutely distributes them himself:

“He cures a ——— or ———

At a very small expence;

Blisters, bleeds, or draws your tugs,

Destroys all vermin, fleas and bugs,

Restores lost m——nh——ds at will,

So come and try the Doctor’s skill.”



And, surprising as it may appear, such puffs had the desired effect; the ignorant, the foolish, and the curious swallowed his physic, wondering only at its cheapness, and the Doctor's art and mystery in the administering thereof,—for he never did such things with the careless air of a “common practitioner,” but hem'd, looked grave and thoughtful, examined the pulse and tongue, (though it were a person with a broken head only who came for a plaster) and would go through the usual routine of questions without abating a jot in any cases! It is before stated, that this profound humbug could not then write his own name, (but the case is altered, as will plainly appear), and to avoid the evils arising from the want of this common acquirement, he had printed labels, with blanks to fill up as occasion might require, it being only necessary to insert the figure for number of spoonsful to be taken every one, two, or three hours; this, however, often puzzled him in his arithmetical calculations. A ludicrous illustration of this once occurred, the prescription on the bottle running thus,—“*Please to take 200 table-spoonsful of this mixture every two hours!*” (all but the figures being printed on the label) the mention of which, from his subsequent experience, is particularly galling to the little gentleman.

I must not forget to mention, that he is a “quack in politics, as well as physic,” and, in his own opinion, a great orator. His empty vanity, and desire to hear himself tattle, has indeed caused him to be imprisoned twice, and the radicals, (amongst whom he has acted precisely the same part which he formerly did amongst the methodists), from motives of pity for his weakness, and charity to his family, have supported him and them at such times; in fact these circumstances have contributed mainly to his career of fraud, bringing grist to the mill. The radicals, also, have now entirely discarded “the Doctor,” as he always styles himself; and the sooner his patients, who from ignorance of the man's character have ventured their lives in his hands, do the same,

the sooner he must return to that station which he formerly occupied, with comfort to himself and pride to his friends, and for which alone he is fit.

I shall now hasten to inform you in brief terms the cause of his quitting his native place,—Middleton, which to this day he laments as a step most disastrous to his prospects. Enjoying a long and successful run of business as general doctor, tooth-drawer, &c. his evil genius suggested to the ambitious little mortal the possibility of rivaling the heads of the profession; and as his success hitherto elated him not a little, and blinded him to his own defects, he at once conceived the idea of practising midwifery! But the result was mortifying in the extreme; many had trusted his skill in complaints of the bowels, teeth, and gums, but here he outstepped himself, for no one was found foolhardy enough to trust in his skill as an accoucheur. Enraged and mortified at the supposed affront and open contempt of his wondrous abilities, he projected and executed the following mode of revenge:—Having first prevailed upon his friend, the poet, to write the substance of an introductory card of the usual cast, which he immediately got printed, headed, “J. HEALEY, Surgeon, Dentist, and *Man-midwife*, from *Middleton*, Respectfully informs,” &c. &c. he suddenly removed to the village of Lees, near Oldham, and having once announced his pretensions, (which were not easily to be contradicted), he, by the extreme moderation of his charges, together with the following curious poetical address printed on the backs of his cards, which he distributed as he had done his former puffs, succeeded for a time to a miracle; but the moment the cheat was discovered, he was compelled to decamp with as little ceremony as can be imagined:—

#### THE DOCTOR'S ADDRESS.

Burning fevers I defy,  
Swollen dropsy, atrophy,  
Agonizing pleurisy,  
Soon shall flee before me!



Cholic, with its death so dire,  
 Madness, with its raging ire,  
 Saint Anthony's consuming fire,  
     Never over bore me.  
 I can stay the tooth-ache pang,  
 Or extract a faded fang,  
 Straight or crooked, short or long,  
     Sure am I, and safe too.  
 Ulcer foul or eye so dim,  
 Bruised body, broken limb,  
 Rightly, tightly, I can trim,  
     And assist the deaf, too.  
 Whilst the fair will ever find  
 DR. HEALEY *soft and kind*,  
*Delicacy*, the most *refined*,  
     Sure they may depend on.  
 Dreaded measles, frightful pock,  
 Shrink if I but shew my BLOCK,  
 Even death hateth my knock,  
     *Whom shall I attend on?*

In quitting Lees, he fixed his abode in this town, where he still remains, practising the art of destruction on those who have the folly to be gulled into a belief of his boasted medical education; as a sufficient illustration of which, I herewith send for insertion, if you please, an original and unique literary curiosity, his own hand-writing, with post-marks, &c. &c. legible, as a proof of its authenticity; to illustrate which, it is merely necessary to state, that it was written during his stay in London, previous to imprisonment, and is addressed to one of his then friends, a respectable shopkeeper in this town; the dates and facts will speak for themselves.

I am, Sir,  
 Your most obedient,  
     humble servant,  
 AN ENEMY TO QUACKERY.

*Mr. Joseph Dixan Shop Keeper  
 Beent Oldam Neer Manchester.*

Dr friend I have Just Returnd from the Chourt of Kinges Bench and our Cais is Put of till Munday Next at which Time the Evedans On boath sides whill began int the sertinley Donot a peer to lik the Cais at tawl thear wher above a 100 Counsealers in Court at the time When and hou hit whill End god onley nose Iham Chum Pleat Ley toired of Lunden Peepel shud hav the bank of England to go to that Lives in Lunden whell May the

Peepel Chall hits the Deen of Corruption My health is not in averey good stat at Preasant Give my wharmest Res Pects to hall inquier ing freands and say the More the Bludey Tyrants bind us the More you nighted the shall Find us the Trayels at the Holdbayley will bee Fatal to the Prisnors Causeaed ther Is 5, fouound Giltey of Igh treeson and nodout whill meet Brandreds fait, the<sup>r</sup> Prive Coun Celars whas Called to gethor atalevan clock on Munday Evening George the 4 I hunderstand Gose to Parlement on thursdey, 29 instant I whill Rite to you agaun as soon as posebel after I know the Reswlt wethar whe geet anne trayel or gos to A dungeon and Jail But thers one thing that bairs me up Hunder my trubels and that is The frends I have left behind I ham Confedant Whill not Forsakmee for My houn<sup>e</sup> Part I never never can for get, the Cind ness the Shoed towardes me on My Departyour whitch makes me Cri ought in the falaing langwege Ofor Whone Great Ofor whone Gloreus Dea to give mee back my Home or Crush mee in the free From yours sin sairley

JOSEPH HEALEY.

*Great Portland Street, No. 101,  
 Lunden Apr 26 1820*

*To the Editor of the Medical  
 Adviser.*

SIR,

I am happy to find, that you have in a former number inserted the letter of Mrs. M'DONALD, (spouse and partner of the Scotch *Medico* of that name). Mrs. M'D's. *spirits*, in that spirited epistle, shewed her taste to be not only *proof*, but even *above proof*. Heaven bless her! dear conjugal soul! for this last evidence of her tenderness, in defence of her elderly companion—the *Doctor*! I wish all wives would *distil* the *spirits* of their *affections* with equal *purity*! I have been many months an infirmity patient of Doctor and Mrs. M'D. and can positively state, that, I have drank sundry pints and pots full of "the best *Entire*," bountifully served out by the lady herself, (good creature!) for which I only paid three-pence halfpenny a pint. The Doctor



usually attended at the *Bread and Cheese* delivery; those articles, I suppose, were supplied *by contract*, by some of the Doctor's pay-patients; their quality was as genuine as the philanthropy of the donors!

"Who freely gave to all the poor  
Who left—a pledge behind."

I mean, of course, a pledge of—their *gratitude*.

Mrs. Mac. says, that the Doctor "gives £2000. to the poor every year, and now spends his *WHOLE TIME*, in—doing good to the poor!!!" Pardon me, Mrs. Mac. I hope it is not so, for *your* sake. Beer! bread! cheese! forbid it!—Oh, Mrs. Mac! forget not alimony, pin-money, &c therefore use no ceremony in converting your Doctor by a few lectures on parsimony. The *benevolent* creature would (should he bless you by living to the age of "*old Parr*") exhaust even the mines of Potosi on beer, bread, cheese, and beneficence! All the fruits of his august medico-professional labours must all be melted into malt and froth.

I am, Sir, &c  
TIMOTHY M'PHURSON,  
*Little France, Patten-maker.*

*Tothill Fields, Westminster.*



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Pious Medical Imposture.*—After one of the political brawls at Paris, (one of those little revolutions of parties that took place,) there was a French physician who saved himself by getting off to America in a Philadelphia ship. Upon his arrival, he found that the Quakers were the richest part of the community: he put on a buttonless coat, and a hat with a brim eight inches broad; he was not only a "Friend," but a

friend occasionally moved by the spirit; and a French lady and I (she *peste*-ing him all the while, and I laughing) actually heard him preach in the great meeting-house in Philadelphia. He could not speak English; but had an interpreter,—yes, the *spirit* had an interpreter! John Marselack became the Quaker physician. He got a deal of money; nobody was heard of among the Friends but John Marselack. It was such a triumph to make a convert of a celebrated French physician. In about two years, however, John Marselack's party having got uppermost again in France, and John having got some pretty good sacks of dollars, and being heartily tired of the restraint and mummery in which he was compelled to live, he prepared to return to France. "Friends" were in despair; there was such a whining, and such a sighing! At last the day came, and with thousands of silent squeezes by the hand, and with sweetmeats enough to serve twenty families for a year, off he came in a fine merchant's ship, but not without six elders to accompany friend John down to the mouth of the river Delaware. There they took leave of their brother broadbrim. They went back in the pilot-boat; and John, before they were half a mile from the ship, went down into the cabin, stripped off his Quaker garb, put on a suit of uniform of the national guard of France, came upon the deck, with a fiddle in his hand, playing the tune of *Ca ira*.—*Political Register*.

A very strange epidemic disorder prevails among the rein-deer in the north of Sweden. It was at first thought by some to resemble hydrophobia; but on the contrary, the poor animals, as soon as they are attacked, run at full speed till they meet with a running stream, into which they plunge and perish, to the great loss of the unfortunate owners, whose herds constitute their whole property. It is estimated that above 3000 rein-deer have perished in this manner.—(*Examiner*.)



*Mistaken Case of Consumption.*—

In the hospital of Notre Dieu at Paris, a man died on the 24th of last April, from what was supposed to have been phthisis pulmonalis. On opening the body, the lungs were found not to have been ulcerated, but considerably contracted, and the pleura adhering to the ribs. The cause of death, however, was soon discovered in the liver, myriads of hydatides were found in the spegelian lobe of that viscus.

*Surgical Occurrence.*—The *Dublin Patriot* says, "With much regret we have to state the premature death of Mr. Shakleton, demonstrator of anatomy to the Royal College of surgeons. On Monday the 24th ult. whilst engaged in delivering a lecture, raising a knife at the same time, he slightly cut his finger, which was thus inoculated with virulent matter from the subject upon which he lectured.

Inflammation suddenly came on, and after every remedy was tried in vain, he expired on Friday morning." This is said to have been the fourth fatal case which has occurred in Dublin within a few years, all of the same kind, by which professional men have lost their lives.

We have seen Dr. de Brodum's naturalizing bill of June 28th, 1798, and also his diplomas, foreign and English, before he had a patent for his medicine, also certificates from the hospitals in London. *We understand the doctor is a churchman, and receives the sacrament twice a year, at the Foundling Hospital Chapel.* He was first presented to his Majesty, at the levee, in 1822. With this information we leave our readers to judge, whether he is or ever has been a quack.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. JONES must blister his breast, and take five grains of extract of colocynth, and five of squill pill, every second night.

Let J. THROSBY take five grains of rhubarb, and ten of cream of tartar, every second day.

A. B. A READER, &c. should take a table-spoonful of the decoction of bark, diluted with sulphur, and every day at eleven o'clock, drink half a cup of horehound tea before breakfast, and keep the bowels regular.

REUBIN SPRIGGINS has this consolation, that if he is short his tailor's bill will be proportionately so.

A. B. B. should take the bark in addition to the other remedies.

MALONS may do as he suggests; but he must follow our tonic plan, page 338, MEDICAL ADVISER.

G. G. K.—It is right—bark and powder mixed.

C. C's will be received with pleasure.

S. J. is not the first that has suffered thus.

LOUIS must take a small dose of castor oil, and bathe the parts with warm water.

SOLICITUS may try a course of purgatives for a week.

J. KING should send an address.

ELUS must bathe.

CONFUCIUS studies too much, let him take exercise.

Q. R. S. must lose a little blood.

ESCULAPIUS's communication upon FRIEDEBURG shall be inserted.

DOCTOR BRODUM, as our Correspondent says, shall of course, meet with no undue favour—the letter sent last shall go in.

O. L. Z. is suffering from a dreadful irritability of the nerves; of course, the plan is good.

Many are deferred.

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THE  
MEDICAL ADVISER,  
AND  
GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 32.]

SATURDAY, JULY 3, 1824.

[Price 3d.

THE QUACKS.

*PROSECUTION*

AGAINST THE

MEDICAL ADVISER.



HONESTY AND THE NATION AGAINST QUACKERY AND  
IMPOSITION.

GOSS and CO., under the name of CRUCIFIX, have commenced an action for damages against this publication, which will be shortly tried in the Court of King's Bench. As a question highly important to the nation at large is involved in this trial, the Publishers hope that they will be assisted by the public so far as forwarding immediately any information, letters, or other documents, calculated to serve them on their defence. There is a club of Quacks formed to attack the "MEDICAL ADVISER," and a fund subscribed!!!

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## SCROFULA.

(Continued from page 19.)

To invigorate the constitution, it will be necessary, in the cure of scrofula, to employ such medicines as are supposed to impart strength to the body. Of the vegetable class the cinchona is the most esteemed; but previous to its use, and to insure the full benefit from it, the bowels must be previously cleared of any morbid accumulation of fæces, either by the submuriate of mercury or neutral salts, in the manner before mentioned. The cinchona seems, however, best suited to those cases where there are extensive ulcers or large abscesses, with copious exhausting discharges of purulent matter, and in general to communicate that degree of energy to the actions of the system which tends to support and confirm the patient's strength. If the stomach will bear the powder, it will be the best way of exhibiting it, but should it disagree, then either a decoction or infusion of it may be substituted, or the extract may be tried properly dissolved.

If none of these preparations agree with the patient, or it is wished, after a time, to change the medicine, some of the other vegetable tonics, such as calumba, cascarilla, gentian, myrrh, &c. may be given; and to add to their efficacy, there may be conjoined some agreeable aromatic, such as the tinctura cardamomi, or tinctura cinnamoni composita.

Of the mineral tonics, iron and the sulphuric and nitric acids are most valued for their virtue in the cure of scrofula; the latter are palatable, grateful to the stomach, and agree with all forms and stages of the disease, being peculiarly adapted to that state of fever which is connected with the putrid sloughs that are often formed on the inside of large tumours when first exposed to the air, and to that state of weakness which disposes to copious perspiration upon any moderate degree of exercise. Dr. Mosma informs us, that he found muriated barytes and the nitric acid to increase the

appetite, and impart vigour to the system, but he never saw them exhibit any beneficial effect on the morbid glands; a few drops of either of the acids may be given with each dose of the cinchona, or other vegetable tonics. Of the preparations of iron, the subcarbonate ferrum ammoniatum, and muriated solution, have been found most efficacious; doses may be given of these proportioned to the age of the patient twice or thrice a day. To derive the full benefit from tonic medicines in scrofula, it will be advisable occasionally to administer the vegetable and mineral at the same time in combination. About ten grains of the ferrum ammoniatum, in the space of twenty-four hours, will be sufficient for an adult, and so on in proportion for children.

Iron is less liable than cinchona to oppress the stomach with indigestion, or to produce accumulation in the bowels, and on these accounts is a more unexceptionable medicine in scrofula than the latter. During the use of tonics, a few grains of rhubarb, with one or two of the submuriate of mercury, may be given now and then.

Mineral waters of the sulphureous and chalybeate class may likewise prove serviceable in the treatment of the disease under investigation.

Arsenic is another mineral production which has been employed in scrofula with some advantage, and is said to contribute greatly to the cure of scrofulous ulcers; from one to five drops of a solution of this may be given to children twice or thrice a day, according to their age, and from five to ten, or more, to grown persons, diminishing the quantity if it affects the bowels.

Besides employing medicines internally to correct the cachetic state of the fluids, and strengthen the system, external applications are often obliged to be used.

Upon the first appearance of any tumour, or enlargement of any joint by tumefaction of the parts surrounding it, it will be always advisable to disperse it, if possible, as the patient will thereby be relieved from some very troublesome



consequential symptoms. The discutients commonly employed are different saturnine applications, the liquor ammonia acetatis, solutions of the muriate of ammonia, camphorated and ammoniated oils, a mixture of fresh bile, with saponaceous liniment plasters of soap, ammonia cum, and mercury, sea-water poultices, hemlock, mercurial ointment, electricity, and likewise blisters. The quercus marinus, or sea-tang, bruised and made into a poultice, is an application much recommended. These may be tried in rotation, and when one fails another may probably succeed. When sea-bathing can be obtained, it will prove the most efficacious of all remedies.

It is only, however, in the incipient stages of the attack, and before effusion has attained a stationary state, that any benefit is to be expected from discutient applications; for after the parts have lost their activity, and have become indolent, these remedies will have little or no power over them.

The topical detraction of blood, by means of leeches, will prove a powerful mean in those cases of large glands, which lie superficially, or adhere to the surface, and which are attacked with inflammation that threatens to terminate in suppuration, or where this occupies any joint on its immediate vicinity; but it is only under such circumstances, that local detractions of blood are necessary and advisable.

During the incipient or inflammatory stage of scrofulous glandular swellings, an occasional gentle purgative to keep the bowels soluble, and consisting of a few grains of rhubarb, joined with calomel, may prove serviceable.

In a case of some years standing, in which the glands of the neck had become enormously enlarged, and the tumour was attended with excruciating pains, much relief was obtained by anointing the parts morning and night, with an ointment composed of one drachm of tartarised antimony, rubbed with an ounce of lard, even after considerable doses of opium, administered internally, had failed to alle-

viate the pain. After using the ointment a few days, several pustules, of a considerable size, appeared on the tumour, being the usual consequence of its application.

Galvanism, and smart electrical shocks, passed through scrofulous tumours of an indolent nature, particularly when occupying glands in the neck, have, in some instances, had a good effect in dispersing them.

## AN ESSAY ON APPARITIONS,

BY JOHN ALDERSON, M. D.

(*This review is copied from a late periodical of great merit, "the Literary Examiner."*)

MOST of our general readers are acquainted with the very acute and illustrative essay of Dr. Ferriar, of Manchester, on this subject. The present comparatively brief production is republished, in order to claim for its author a priority in regard to the theory advanced by both. There is an order of mind to which this dispute will be of some consequence; but we must confess that to us it is of very little. The two points established by it, we imagine, are now admitted by most who can boast of *mens sana in corpore sano*, always presuming the non interference of prejudice or superstition. In point of fact, however, Dr. Alderson is clearly entitled to the merit of simply stating the probable rise of every ghost story that ever was manufactured without the aid of imposture; and of deducing from facts and cases submitted to his *own* observation and medical skill; those conclusions which Dr. Ferriar subsequently, and we hope without intentional concealment, assumed the merit of being the first to deduce and enumerate. Dr. Alderson published first in 1810, Dr. Ferriar in 1813; but, the former gentleman's statement amounting simply to a paper drawn up for a literary society, escaped due general notice in the first instance; and although subsequently republished, the more popular



work of Dr. Ferriar had, in some measure, allayed all curiosity on the subject.

Next to the influence of superstition, and the discouragement uniformly given from quarters which it is unnecessary to specify, to scepticism generally, we may attribute the lingering credulity in regard to supernatural appearances, to that universality of tradition, upon which Dr. Johnson has laid so mischievous a stress in his *Rasselas*. It is impossible to get rid of so much testimony, by the general charge of imposture; and a vague imputation of the effects to a disordered state of the imagination was not sufficient to the assailment of undeniable asseveration. The great merit of the works of Drs. Alderson and Ferriar consists in a simple and practical exhibition of cases, which account at once for all the supposed phenomena, and leave the credit of the various grave persons unimpeached, who have either deposed to the existence of phantoms from their own experience, or who have been irresistibly led to confide in the statements of witnesses in whom they could do no other than implicitly confide. In this small tract, Dr. Alderson enumerates four or five cases, that came under his own cognizance and cure, which although few, are in themselves sufficient to shew the real source of the vast variety of visitation from the other world, which has eternally haunted the mind of man, and existed in legend and record, in every stage of human existence. We give the first of them as the most curious and comprehensive:—

“I was called upon some time ago to visit Mr. —, who at that time kept a dram shop. Having at different times attended him, and thence knowing him very well; I was struck with something singular in his manner on my first entrance. He went up stairs with me, but evidently hesitated, occasionally, as he went. When he got into his chamber, he expressed some apprehension, lest I should consider him insane, and send him to the asylum at York, whither I had not

long before sent one of his pot-companions.—‘Whence all these apprehensions?—What is the matter with you!—Why do you look so full of terror?’—He then sat down, and gave me a history of his complaint.

“About a week or ten days before, after drawing some liquor in his cellar for a girl, he desired her to take away the oysters which lay upon the floor, and which he supposed she had dropped;—the girl thinking him drunk, laughed at him, and went out of the room.—He endeavoured to take them up himself, and to his great astonishment could find none.—He was met going out of the cellar, when at the door he met a soldier, whose looks he did not like, attempting to enter. He desired to know what he wanted there; and upon receiving no answer, but, as he thought, a menacing look, he sprang forward to receive the intruder, and, to his no small surprise, found that it was a phantom. The cold sweat hung upon his brow—he trembled in every limb—it was the dusk of the evening; as he walked along the passage, the phantom flitted before his eyes—he attempted to follow it, resolutely determined to satisfy himself; but as this vanished, there appeared others at a distance, and he exhausted himself by fruitless attempts to lay hold of them. He hastened to his family with marks of terror and confusion; for, though a man hitherto of the most undaunted resolution, he confessed to me that he now felt what it was to be completely terrified. During the whole of that night he was constantly tormented with a variety of spectres, sometimes of people who had been long dead, at other times of friends who were living; and harassed himself with continually getting out of bed, to ascertain whether the people he saw were real or not. Nor could he always distinguish who were and who were not real customers, when they came into the room, so that his conduct became the subject of observation; and though it was for a time attributed to private drinking, it



was at last suspected to arise from some other cause. When I was sent for, the family were under the full conviction that he was insane, although they confessed, that in every thing, except the foolish notion of seeing apparitions, he was perfectly rational and steady. During the whole of the time that he was relating his case to me, and his mind was fully occupied, he felt the most gratifying relief, for in all that time he had not seen one apparition: and he was elated with pleasure indeed, when I told him I should not send him to the asylum, since his was a complaint I could cure at his own house. But whilst I was writing a prescription, and had suffered him to be at rest, I saw him get up suddenly, and go with a hurried step to the door.—‘What did you do that for?’—he looked ashamed and mortified, and replied, ‘I had been so well whilst in conversation with you, that I could not believe that the phantom I saw enter the room was not really a soldier, and I got up to convince myself.’

“I need not here detail particularly the medical treatment adopted; but it may be as well to state the circumstances which probably led to the complaint, and the principle acted on in the cure. Some time previously he had had a quarrel with a drunken soldier, who attempted, against his inclination, to enter his house at an unseasonable hour, and in the struggle to turn him out, the soldier drew his bayonet, and, having struck him across the temples, divided the temporal artery; in consequence of which he lost a very large quantity of blood before a surgeon arrived, there being no one present who knew that, in such cases, simple compression with the finger upon the spouting artery, would stop the effusion of blood. He had scarcely recovered from the effects of this loss of blood, when he undertook to accompany a friend in his walking-match against time, in which he went forty-two miles in nine hours. Elated with success, he spent the whole of the following day in drinking; but found himself, a short time afterwards, so much out of health, that he came to the resolution of abstaining altogether from liquor. It was in the

course of the week following this abstinence from his usual habits, that he had the disease he now complained of. All his symptoms continued to increase for several days till I saw him, allowing him no time for rest. Never was he able to get rid of these shadows by night when in bed, nor by day when in motion; though he sometimes walked miles with that view, and at others went into a variety of company. He told me he suffered even bodily pain, from the severe lashing of a waggoner with his whip, who came every night to a particular corner of his room, but who always disappeared when he jumped out of bed to retort, which he did several nights successively. The whole of this complaint was effectually removed by bleeding, by leeches, and by active purgatives. After the first employment of these means, he saw no more phantoms in the day time; and after the second, once only, between sleeping and waking, saw the milkman in his bed-room. He has remained perfectly rational and well ever since, and can go out in the dark as fearlessly as ever, being fully convinced that the ghosts which he was so confident he saw, were merely the creatures of disease.”

The summing up of Dr. Alderson on the cases of which the foregoing takes the lead, is simple, explicit, and undeniable:—

“The hallucination, which the foregoing cases detail, may be distinguished from partial insanity, from delirium, from somnambulism, and from reverie, to all of which it bears some resemblance. In partial insanity, the patient, though sensible on most subjects, is generally intent on one particular train of thought; and, whenever he has occasion to speak upon that subject, he flies off into some absurd notion or other, and no argument whatever can drive him from his purpose. In delirium, the patient neither knows where he is nor what he does, except for a few moments, when violently roused. In somnambulism, there are certain voluntary motions performed, without our being sensible of volition. In reverie, the mind is so wholly intent on its own particular train of thoughts, that the patient



takes no notice whatever of any thing around him.

“But in such cases as I have detailed, there is no point on which the patients can be said to be irrational; they merely state that they perceive objects, where we know, and where they can very easily convince themselves, that they do not exist:—

————— ‘their thoughts

Are combinations of disjointed things;  
And forms impalpable and unperceived  
Of others’ sight, familiar are to them.’

“When this circumstance occurs in the day-time, and more frequent opportunities for examination are afforded,—they do convince themselves of their non-existence,—and when, as I have said before, their own reason is assisted by the more cultivated and unimpaired understanding of those around them,—when there is no art, no attempt at imposition, the whole is clearly made to appear a mere delusion, a *deceptio visus*, arising from a temporary disordered state of the animal functions, wholly independent of the persons or bodies those figures represent. But what must have been the case in other circumstances? Suppose these phantoms had only appeared in the night?—suppose the physician had affected all the arts and tricks of the designing magician, or the crafty priest—how would it have been then?—Why, precisely what we have before asserted:—they would have gone through life with a belief in the actual re-appearance of the dead, as well as the capability of communicating with the spirits of their departed friends; and thus they might have contributed their evidence to the vilest impositions of those who have made a gain of the credulity of mankind, and who have, from interested motives, encouraged the fear of ghosts, the worship of demons, the belief of supernatural agency, which they could controul by their spells; of those, who, like, Owen Glendower, can call spirits from the vasty deep, or of the mystic masons, who pretend to show you the spirits of long departed friends. Here too we see how a Mahomet, a Swedenborg, a Jacob Behmen, may have not only imposed on the world, but also on themselves, the whole farrago of their celestial communications, and converse

with superior beings; and it seems to me probable, that certain professors of this art may have the power of throwing themselves into that state, in which they can bring before them those imaginary unsubstantial beings. This no new opinion. If I remember right, it has been related of the Pythian priestess, and appears to me to be the case with the wizards of Kamschatka, and is probably the object of the whirling motion of the dervises, and of the serpent-eaters in Egypt.”

Dr. Alderson further observes, that the common argument against ghosts,—that they are only seen by *one person at a time*, although indicative of the real source of the illusion, has failed to command the belief which is due to it. In point of fact, what we have already hinted is too true,—that certain gifted and amiable persons, possessed of minds of not the very first concoction, have been involuntarily disposed to connect a disbelief in apparitions with a state of mind indisposed to the necessary quantum of faith in other matters. We have before alluded to the opinion put by Dr. Johnson into the mouth of Imlac, in *Rasselas*. Cumberland adopts a similar argument; and hear Addison, who wrote before either of them:—

“I think a person who is terrified with the imagination of ghosts and spectres much more reasonable than one who, contrary to the reports of all historians, sacred and profane, antient and modern, and to the traditions of all nations, thinks the appearance of ghosts fabulous and groundless. Could I not give myself up to this general testimony of mankind, I should to the relations of particular persons, who are now living, and whom I cannot distrust in other matters of fact.”

It was in the reign of Queen Anne that Glanville wrote his *Book upon Witches*; and upon the unphilosophical principle thus assumed by Addison, Johnson, Cumberland, and their great and little followers, the grave testimonies which that sagacious divine produced of an universal belief in witchcraft, ought to be received as a proof of its existence. Witches, suckling devils, riding on broomsticks, and transformed into hares, were every-day occurrences, as witness the reve-



rend and worshipful hands of the Clergymen, the Justices of the Peace, &c. of half the parishes in England. Addison lived to see the penal Acts founded on such testimony repealed, and the belief in it laughed to scorn; and would have done well to distrust it on kindred occasions.

Upon the whole, this brief essay, by Dr. Alderson, at once supplies, in a small compass, an unanswerable antidote to a superstitious belief in ghosts on *testimony*, and supplies precautionary information, which will frequently rally the disordered mind into a salutary combat with the effects of disease. Our sole regret is on the score of the innumerable good stories which will shrink into most inelegant fiction, by the cold touch of a philosophy so inelegantly founded on mere matter of fact.

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### DANDELION—ITS MEDICAL PROPERTIES, &c.

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THIS is one of our most common indigenous plants, flowering from April to September. The root is fusiform, and externally of a dark colour. The leaves are all radical, in general runcinate, but in very moist situations, nearly entire, toothed, smooth, and of a pleasant green colour. The flower-stem is an erect, one-flowered, simple scape, naked, smooth, fistulous, fragile, and abounding with a bitter milky juice. The flower is terminal, large, of a golden colour, and closes in the evening: the calyx is smooth, with the exterior scales loosely turned down; the florets are very numerous, ligulate, and toothed at the extremities. The receptacle is spheroidal and punctured. The seeds are obovate, furrowed, of a pale olive colour; and furnished with a radiated pappus, or a large stipe.

The herbaceous part of this plant is blanched, and used on the Continent as a salad; but in this country, although it is designated by the Edinburgh and Dublin colleges, yet it is very seldom used, the root possessing much more of the principle on which the medicinal pow-

ers of the plant depend. The recent full-grown root only should be used. It is white and covered with a brown cuticle.

Dandelion is inodorous, but has a bitter, somewhat sweetish acidulous taste. The milky juice reddens the vegetable blues, owing, according to *Hermstadt*, to the presence of tartaric acid. Water extracts its virtues better than alcohol; and scarcely any thing is taken up by ether; yet, *Dr. John* detected caoutchouc in it. The decoction is precipitated by infusion of galls, and solutions of nitrate of silver, muriate of mercury, and superacetate of lead. Sulphate of iron strikes with it a pale olive colour, and after some time throws down a precipitate. Hence it is probable that the active principles of taraxacum, are extractive gluten, a bitter principle which does not appear to be resinous, and tartaric acid either free or as a super-tartrate. The above re-agents are incompatible with the decoction.

Dandelion is aperient and diuretic. It has been long used on the Continent as a remedy in jaundice, dropsy, pulmonie tubercles, hepatic obstructions, and some cutaneous diseases. In this country it has been lately tried, and although its powers appear to have been overrated by the German physicians, yet it certainly possesses some efficacy in these diseases; and *Dr. Pemberton* affirms, that he has seen great advantage result from using the extract in chronic inflammation and incipient scirrhus of the liver, and in chronic derangements of the stomach. It may be given in the form of extract, or of infusion made by boiling two drachms of the sliced root in two pounds of water, down to a pint, and to the strained fluid, adding three drachms of supertartrate of potass: two ounces may be given for a dose, three or four times a day.

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### LUSUS NATURÆ.

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A BLACK woman in Virginia, has given birth to a twin child, or



rather a monster, of the following description:—It has two necks and heads, of a perfectly natural appearance, with all the features of the face complete, and as large as those children usually are at birth. From the shoulders down they are united, having but two natural arms and as many legs; with a double arm arising a little below the place, at which the two necks unite to form the shoulders, and terminating at the extremity in a hand having seven fingers. The sternum has a double appearance, though two distinct ones cannot be felt. It has two spines well marked at their upper extremities, but less at their lower ones. It has a third leg coming off opposite the two natural ones. This is not double any where except the foot which has seven toes; five coming out in the usual manner, and two arising from the top of the foot. These facts are stated in the Richmond Enquirer.

### EGGS AND POTATOES.

THE Scotch method of preserving eggs, by dipping them in boiling water, which destroys the living principle, is too well known to need farther notice. The preservation of potatoes, by similar treatment is also a valuable and useful discovery. Large quantities may be cured at once, by putting them into a basket as large as the vessel containing the boiling water will admit, and then just dipping them a minute or two at the utmost. The germ, which is so near the skin, is thus "killed," without injuring the potatoe. In this way several tons might be cured in a few hours. They should then be dried in a warm oven, and laid up in sacks or casks, secure from frost, in a dry place. Another method of preserving this valuable root is, first to peel them, then to grate them down to a pulp which is put into coarse cloths, and the water squeezed out by putting them into a common press, by which means they are formed into flat cakes.

### CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

*The Use and Importance of the Practice of Physic, the Difficulty of the Science, and the Dismal Havoc made by Quacks and Pretenders.*

MR. EDITOR,

I AM impelled to address you upon this most interesting subject, by the receipt of an anonymous note, the 25th ult., of which the following is a copy:

"If you read 'The World' of Sunday next (30th August) you will there see something, perhaps, not uninteresting to you."

Many other persons beside myself had been favoured with a similar *billet doux*, which was no doubt considered a genteel way of encreasing the sale of the "World;" but it would have been more *polite* to have paid the postage. Be it known, however, that the hoax will not take a second time. "Blossoming is as necessary to the human mind as to trees, to make it recover its verdure and flourish; but there are people, like rose trees without flowers, who present nothing to your view save bark and prickles." Fathers of families are led to expect that one column at least of a Sunday paper should be devoted to a moral subject; but this paper is not apt to contain such interesting matter. Perhaps the Editor, like Mr. Hunt, calculated *ad captandum vulgus*; at least one would think so from his address to the public; viz. "Ever ready, through the channel of our paper, to give *publicity* to institutions where the real welfare of mankind is intended, *our readers are informed* that a publication of importance will shortly make its appearance from the Medical Board in G. C. S., B. F. R., which will no doubt, emanating from that establishment, be read with avidity by those who have been afflicted, and improperly treated by illiterate men."

This certainly is the puff direct, and merits severe reprehension, because he advances that which he does not know of his own knowledge. Now, with respect to this establish-



ment, and the other belonging to the same company, as the Editor of the "World" has brought them before the tribunal of the public, it is high time the censors should know, and they have the right to be informed, who the parties are, forming these establishments. Certainly, if an enormous pair of whiskers denotes wisdom, one of these gentlemen may boast no inconsiderable share. He otherwise renders himself conspicuous by parading Pall Mall, Bond Street, &c., mounted on a cream-coloured complete horse, *a la militaire*, or in a dashing chariot drawn by a pair of these beautiful animals. Now, although this M. D., formerly an apothecary in wapping, is apparently the ostensible person at both establishments, his name does not appear as if he was ashamed of his company. The community are however much indebted to this gentleman as the inventor of the Life preserver, *to save persons from drowning*; but to the point.

"Honour a physician with the honour due unto him, for the uses which you may have of him." So much for the *scientific* professor; but for the *professor* only; mark the observation of King Solomon.—"He that sinneth before his Maker, let him fall into the hand of the Physician." This great city has been inundated for many years by quacks and pretenders to the science of healing. The company of apothecaries at length appear to be roused from their torpor; they have had several meetings lately for the purpose of regulating the practice of physic; but all their bye rules can have no effect without the intervention of Parliament; and it is to be hoped, as the *subject* is of such *vital* importance to the *state*, that such laws will be enacted as will shield the community in future from the *anguis in herba*—from the pests of society, "who deal destruction round the land." One of these gentry argues thus,—"If what is called a regular bred medical man should suffer nineteen patients out of twenty to linger out a certain period in torment, and then die, the friends would console themselves with having *done every*

*thing in their power* by acquiescing in the *usual routine of temporising remedies*, for the faculty still confine themselves in some disorders to the old plan of procuring temporary ease by opium and such palliatives, leaving the rest to chance, with their own conviction of there being no certain mode of insuring relief. Whereas, if the circumstances were reversed, and the *irregular* practitioner should cure nineteen out of twenty, if the twentieth died, no epithet, however vile, would be bad enough for him than a physician, and I include all the branches of the profession,—no man is of greater service or detriment to society. If he is skilful, industrious, and honest, he is of unspeakable benefit to mankind; but if incapacity, idleness, and roguery are his characteristics, he is a curse to the community, and more to be dreaded than "the arrow that flieth by night, or the pestilence that walketh at noon day."

A good physician, from the nature of his profession has, above all others, the best opportunities for being extensively useful. The patient considers him as his friend, his father, and his neighbour; and were it not for the light of religion, could scarce refrain from adoring him as a divinity. He appears in the most amiable and endearing light; it is his office to relieve the sick, assuage our pain, and distribute health, felicity, and joy. He combats for us the greatest of all evils, and for awhile retards the mortal attacks of the King of Terrors. This is his proper duty; but he may at the same time, instead of a priest, support our patience, banish our fears, or improve them to our best interests, by raising our hopes, exercising all our virtues, and "If he cannot give a new lease for our lives, and death must come, he can soften us into a compliance with, and resignation to the will of our common Creator, and thereby reconcile us to the solitary mansions of the grave, and prepare us for a state of exemption from sickness and pain, and the enjoyment of endless and unspeakable happiness."

There is not in the inspired writings a more beautiful parable than



that wherein our Saviour represents a neighbour, under the character of the good Samaritan, who performed the function of a physician upon the unhappy traveller who had been wounded by robbers. And it is very remarkable, that in this excellent parable our Saviour could not describe more lively the inhumanity of the persons who abandoned the wounded traveller, wallowing in his blood, than by representing them under the character of priests, nor depict the commiseration and succour we owe our neighbour in brighter colours, than by ascribing the friendly office to a layman.

Many, perhaps, may think, that a character adorned with such a constellation of virtues, is beyond the reach of human nature; but there have been instances in which all these endowments have been fully exemplified, and I could name some in the present day; but such a physician is a kind of phoenix, *rara avis in terris*. So much, however, of the preceding character as relates to morals, is in the power of every man to obtain. But to arrive at an equal knowledge in physic, requires an uncommon and elevated genius. It is impossible from the constitution of things to be otherwise. Consider the nature of the science, the pre-requisites to the study of it; the difficulties attending its practice; and the assertion will appear sufficiently elucidated. Of all professions, none is so extensive as physic. There are scarce any of the liberal arts and sciences that are not necessarily to be studied by him who would attain to any considerable pitch of eminency in it. Latin and Greek, among the learned languages, he must be intimately acquainted with; as the ancient physicians, whose writings are to this day held in esteem, were either Greeks or Romans. Besides many of the moderns, now in highest reputation, have wrote only in the Latin tongue. Nor would it be an useless acquisition if, for the same reason, he was furnished with the knowledge of most of the living languages of Europe.

Natural Philosophy, called the School of Physics, is a science, without which the candidate for the pro-

fession will never be eminent. It teaches us the qualities and affections of matter, whereby we acquire the knowledge of their different and manifold influences.

The human body is of itself a world of wonders, a subject of endless curiosities. Its constitution and mechanism must be the grand subject of his attention and study. He must know all its diversities, qualities, motions, parts; their particular relations, and those which every part singly, and the whole, stand in to all the bodies that surround it. To that end the qualities of air, fire, water, and earth, in all their quantities and modifications, must be sagaciously investigated. The history of diseases, and their symptoms, singly and complexly considered, must be the subject of his thought and study. The virtues of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms, are to be explored, and then applied to the disease of the patient. For this purpose they are often to be compounded, and the momenta of their respective powers weighed, added and subtracted, not only by a balance, but the nice and cool judgments of a thoughtful mind, a mistake here instantly issuing in the death of the patient. The investigation of medicines is called the materia medica; and that of itself opens a most extensive field of knowledge, through which the student must make an ample range. Nature must be pryed into in her darkest cells, her most secret and hidden recesses; to which end chemistry must lend her aid, and employ all her torturing arts. Further, so much of metaphysics as teaches the nature of the soul in its various operations upon human economy, must pass under consideration, since many are the diseases on which the passions have a critical influence. How just therefore the Latin adage, *ubi desinit philosophus ibi incipit medicus*.

In logic and the mathematics, if the physician would think clearly and write methodically, it will be necessary to make some considerable progress; and several other branches of knowledge that might be mentioned will well deserve his study, as preparatory to his particular profession.



How vast then and extensive the science! There is scarce a power of the body, or a single faculty of the soul, that must not be entirely engaged in a preparation for a successful practice, and be continually exercised in it.

How tenacious must be the memory to retain! how quick the sagacity to discover! how clear the judgment to distinguish! and how strong the powers to reason! where the objects of the understanding are so manifold and diversified, and the matter about which it is conversant so important and yet precarious to mankind! How numerous then the pre-requisites to be attended to by him, who would qualify himself for so boundless a field of thought, so extensive a sphere of action.

*A Genius adapted to the Profession.*  
—There; is scarce a calling in life but what requires a particular distinguished cast of mind in him who would excel in it.—There is no truth more certain than this; and if we have recourse to history, or make even the most superficial observation upon mankind, we shall find it verified beyond contradiction. The difficulty lies only in determining for what a youth is more especially capacitated. And that, indeed, is a task of which but very few are capable; the fault lies here—The father or guardian puts the child, or pupil, upon an employment, without consulting his genius, and if they happen not to coincide, in vain are his attempts. He fights against the invincible law of his nature, and must finally be disappointed. This has been the fountain from whence the ruin of thousands hath been derived; it is a rock upon which many have been shipwrecked. Infamy and poverty are the eternal consequences of a genius misapplied, unless the force of nature, as it sometimes happens, carries off the person from the employment he first entered into, to another adapted to his turn and capacity.

Sir Bartholomew Shower, in England, and B——— in Holland, were designed by their fathers for the pulpit, and though the power of their minds were naturally strong; there was as little prospect that either

of them would succeed in divinity, as if they had been naturally incapable of any thing at all; “*Naturam expelles furca licet usque recurret.*”

Sir Bartholomew Shower struck into the study and practice of the law, and there gave play to those abilities, which otherwise would have been lost to himself and the world. The same may be said of B———, who entered upon the profession of physic. The first was scarce inferior to any lawyer of his day; the other in the healing art surpassed all who preceded him, and by his most valuable writings, made larger accessions to that science than any man: while both amassed to themselves very considerable fortunes, and acquired a reputation,

“*Quod nec imber edaë, aut aquilo impotens*

*Possit diruere aut innumerabilis*

*Annorum series et fuga temporum.”*

HOR.

It would supplant the design of this paper, should I proceed to expatiate on every thing preparatory to the attainment of a considerable skill in physic. Let it suffice to mention that much study, and great industry, are absolutely necessary. The candidate must, besides, have the advantages of observation, and instruction in a great variety of cases, and a tolerable fortune, to bear up the expences that will necessarily accrue before he is able to practise with safety; for, till then, he cannot honestly earn a single farthing in his profession. And where *all these things have been wanting, in any considerable degree*, we may safely pronounce him a Quack and Pretender; a wretch, of all others, the most despicable to himself, and the most mischievous to mankind; and yet, so strangely absurd is our conduct, that the meanest among them insinuates himself, not into a mere subsistence, but into a princely fortune. But, alas! what carnage, what destruction they perpetually occasion! How many of the lives of our fellow-citizens annually fall a sacrifice to these pests of society, these merciless butchers of human kind! While we are tenacious of our property, and justly glory in laws wisely calculated for the preservation of our possessions,



how preposterous is our conduct in trusting our persons to murderous quacks and licensed assassins! By the law of the land a person is guilty of murder, for killing a man by throwing a stone from a house into the street where people usually pass, though there be no evidence of *malice prepense*: and shall an illiterate mountebank, who deals about the instruments of destruction, escape with impunity, when it is as demonstrable that he has often deprived his patients of life, as if he had stabbed them to the heart? The blood of my countrymen calls for vengeance upon the wretches that lavish it like water, that undertake what they do not understand, whether the physician, surgeon, accoucheur, apothecary, or *toothdrawer*; (many of these latter *practitioners* merit excision, not only from their own evil deeds, but for employing assistants, who extract without discrimination)—indeed, a *professional* gentleman of this latter description, to evince his *sagacity*, and that he might have *law* on his side, took an *attorney* into partnership!

“So many a suffering patient saith,  
Though the Apothecary \* fights with death,  
Still they’re sworn friends to one another.”

COLEMAN.

It is high time that Parliament should interpose for relief. The lives of the people is the most valuable branch of their property, and surely, the highest object of the legislative attention. The practisers of physic, above all others, ought to be under the regulation of the law, as it is more dangerous to mankind than any; thousands may be poisoned or otherwise deprived of life, and the doctor pass unpunished! And yet there are very few other professions which do not give some security to the public for the management of it, consistent with the commonweal. The divine binds himself in the presence of God, and is exposed to the animadversions of the whole world: every one of his hearers is a perpetual spy upon his principles and conduct. The same is the case of

the gentlemen of the long robe, who, besides being regulated by the law, are under the obligation of an oath to demean themselves uprightly in their practise: but, in this country, upon the physician there is no check. If he heals, he has all the honor due to him, and often receives it where nature would have performed the cure without, and perhaps much sooner than by his aid: if through ignorance or wickedness the patient dies under his hands, even then he has nothing to fear. His faults are often buried in the same grave with the deceased, they rise not in judgment against him, and the death is solely ascribed to nature and Providence.

————— How oft, alas!  
Parents survive their offspring:—oft the babe

Dies in its mother’s womb.—Nor dies alone!

But of its mother makes a victim too.  
Such fates, O Charlotte, and O royal babe!

Were your’s—nay, our’s—and placed the nation’s hopes

In dread eclipse. Our tender lamb, whom late

We nurtur’d, and from whom we fondly hop’d

A race of British kings, hath breath’d her last,

Nor left her infant to console our loss;  
Both soar’d aloft, regardless of our pangs,  
And grieving Britain wish’d to follow too.  
Each felt the loss peculiarly his own.

’Twas the consternation Egypt felt,  
When the Destroyer smote in ev’ry house  
Its first-born son, and wailing fill’d the land.

’Tis as a mighty gap! a breach, through which

May rush upon us ills without controul.  
Touch’d by its liveliest sense, the nation weeps,

And piously to God devotes the day  
On which the last obsequies take place:  
The churches fill with crowds unknown before!

The pearly drops bedew each mournful cheek,

And pious vows are breath’d from ev’ry lip,

To profit by the warning, and apply  
The sacred lesson.

I shall close my observations with

\* Vide Christie’s Poem on the lamented death of her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte.—Hatchard, Piccadilly.



expressing my obligation to the Editor of the "*World*," for the account he gives of the Medical School of Montpelier, in his *Newspaper* of Sunday, Aug. 30.

#### THE OATH

Of every Batchelor in Medicine, upon taking up his degree, being so apposite to what it is to be hoped the Legislature will speedily require in these kingdoms:—

"I ————— before the statute of Hippocrates, in presence of the Professors of this School, and of my dear fellow Students, do swear, in the name of the Supreme Being, to be faithful to the Laws of Honor and Probity in the practice of Medicine. I will give my gratuitous attendance to the Indigent, and will never require a fee beyond my Labour. Admitted into the interior of Families, my eyes shall see nothing that passes, my tongue shall preserve the secrets that are entrusted to me, and my conduct shall never tend to corrupt morals or favor crime. Respectful and grateful towards my Masters, I will bestow upon their Children the Lessons which I have received from their Fathers. May mankind grant me their esteem, if I am faithful to my oath; and may I be covered with the opprobrium and contempt of my brethren, if I break it."

CHIRON.

Sept. 8, 1818.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

HAVING seen in several of your preceding numbers, some observations on Incubus or Night-mare, induces me to offer a few remarks on that distressing malady. Though you may exclaim,

"Nihil dictum quod non dictum prius."

But to those persons who are subject to frequent attacks of that painful and dangerous disorder, it may prove satisfactory to have any hints suggested that may afford them relief, however simple the remedy. Before I read your quotation from Mr. Waller's treatise, I always entertained an idea that incubus was invariably occasioned by repletion of the stomach, flatulence, dyspepsia, or a combination of

all these concomitants; and what seemed to confirm my opinion was, an idea that the faculty generally entertain, that if the patient can utter but a single word, the spell is broken, and relief immediate. But what seems a little anomalous to this assertion is the instance Mr. Waller cites of a young man he supposes died of this distressing complaint. Admitting this to be a fact, then there must exist another cause besides those above-mentioned, to occasion such a direful catastrophe. For he *vociferated* loud enough to be heard by the family in another apartment, though in the morning he was found a corpse.

May I be permitted to suggest an idea that there remains another cause that will produce the same effect as those before enumerated. I entertain an opinion that a severe attack of incubus may be experienced when the stomach is in a state of inflation or inanition; the effects or painful sensations may be exactly similar, though the cause may differ materially, the one being effected by indigestion or distension, the other by external pressure or weight on the stomach. This is the *monstrum horrendum* felt by the suffering patient — this is the *ghastly hag* that takes her station there. May I be allowed to observe that these painful sensations are frequently occasioned by the person's own arm, which in sleep is often laid across the stomach, and causes a suspension or difficulty of respiration.

But how shall we prevent a repetition of this involuntary act? Allow me to offer a simple remedy. Let the person that is subject to those painful attacks, be provided with a ribbon, each extremity of which terminates in a loop-hole, through each of these one of the hands to be passed as far as the wrist. The ribbon being placed under the body of the patient, the length of which can easily be adjusted so as to prevent the arm being elevated further than the side. Suppers must be avoided, or very slightly indulged in.

This communication gives me an opportunity of recommending a beverage to be drank in the evening instead of malt liquor or spirits. I have



every reason to speak in favour of it, having experienced its beneficial effects; it being not only pleasant but wholesome, and not only designed for the particular class of your readers that labour under paroxysms of nightmare, but I can truly say *instar omnium*. Take two wine glasses of cider, one wine glass of any foreign or British wine, put them into a tumbler with a little sugar and filled up with hot water.

Should you be of opinion these hints may afford relief to any suffering individual, your giving them publicity will oblige a constant reader of your publication.

B. J\*.

1824.

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

By inserting the following, you will much oblige your correspondent and subscriber,

T. N.

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### ON SIGNS AND TOKENS.\*

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THERE seems to be an instinctive desire in the human mind to pry into the concerns of futurity,—an ever restless wish to obtain the knowledge of that which, by the very laws of nature, it is impossible they should ever know. The desire of increasing in knowledge is certainly very praise-worthy, and ought to be encouraged, but let it be devoted to a right object. The pursuits of science—the languages—the customs and pursuits of various nations—the right conduct of life, are all worthy of study, and they satisfy too, by the progress made when our undivided attention is bent on their acquisition; they are within our reach,—are to be attained by a patient and perseverant adherence to the rules by which they may be acquired; and letting no opportunity slip, no elucidation pass by, without treasuring it up in the mind; thus, by observation and patient study, we may generally

conquer the most arduous pursuits, and attain the greatest heights of human knowledge. But thus it is not, when we would press forward into the concerns of futurity: there, all is dark; a dismal void and blank surrounds us,—our finite minds cannot look into, nor can they search into, the concerns of a future period. Such is the curiosity, such the innate restlessness, of our nature, that we are not alone satisfied with what is within our reach, but we must be enquiring into those things which can in no manner concern us.

How, let me ask those who still put some faith in these ridiculous pretenders, is it possible that the lines or marks observable in the hand, or other parts of the body, can have any effect? Think you the deity writes upon the outward form the destiny of the individual? Cannot he himself, the omnipotent and wise, remember what it is his will to do with each individual, without the aid of marks and signs? This would indeed be abrogating from the power and wisdom of creation's God. Nor less ridiculous is the apprehension caused and believed by many vulgar and illiterate minds, by the accidental circumstances of a knife and fork laid across, the spilling of salt, or snapping of a coal from the fire, and others of a similar nature, denoting, as they believe, a death or marriage, a curse or a blessing, as if inanimate matter could foretell the destiny of a reasonable creature; the supposition is foolish in the extreme, and makes the absurdity of their belief plain to all. With these token-believing people, no sign gives more cause of dread, than does the insect called the death-watch; this, if heard in a room where a person is unwell, with such does as certainly and undeniably betoken death, as if a revelation from heaven had expressly foretold it. Now, it is plain that nothing can be more unfounded; is it likely that the Deity should reveal to a poor and helpless insect the future destiny of a creature whom he has endowed with reason and understanding? Why not, if

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\* As signs and tokens have formerly taken a leading action in physic, and even at this enlightened time sometimes creep into the science, we readily insert our Correspondent's Letter.



his fate is to be revealed, be made known to the individual himself, whom it most concerns? why impart that knowledge to an insect which is denied to a reasonable soul? The supposition is perfectly inconceivable. We would wish to convince such of the unreasonableness of their alarm, as it may have an injurious tendency. A person labouring under sickness, who believes in such things, when he hears the insect beat its body against the wall, may be so impressed with the idea, that it foretells his death, so work upon his imagination, so prey upon his spirits, that all the medicine he takes, all the nourishment he receives, may do him no good, and prevent his recovery, and through his own absurd fears, experience the very thing he dreads. Thus impressed with the conviction of these evils, the injurious tendency of the belief of such prophetic signs, we would call on all earnestly to reflect and weigh the consequences of it, and to be assured they are totally ungrounded, and void of any reasonable support, to eradicate whatever belief in them they may possess; thus, by their good sense in rejecting them, prove that an enlightened age hath indeed visited our world, and that the fear of supernatural intimations no longer receive support from a reasonable people. T. N.

June, 1824.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

As you state in your last Number, that Brodum receives the Sacrament twice a-year at the Foundling Hospital Chapel—Why not state also how many times he frequents the Synagogue in Denmark court, Strand.

If you wish further particulars respecting B. make a remark to.

Your obedient servant,

A. Z.

30th June, 1824.

[We accept A. Z.'s offer, and assure him that we had no knowledge of the paragraph inserted in our last. It was done by our Publishers from mistaken good intentions.]—ED.



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY

*Lord Byron.*—Extract of a letter from Leghorn, June 12, 1824:—"I received a letter from T\*\*\*, of the 10th April, dated Zante. I send you a few lines from it relative to Lord Byron's death, which has cast a vail of sorrow over all literary Europe. I had been some months absent from him, engaged in the war, and was, by his desire, returning to rejoin him at Missolonghi, when an express reached me to say that he was seriously ill. I hurried on day and night in vain, for, on my arrival at Missolonghi, I found him dead! He was taken ill on the 10th of March—a fever like mine or the Marramma (ague and inflammation). He refused to listen to the advice of his doctors, and resisted the only means of his recovery, to be bled! The fever rapidly augmented, still he considered himself not in danger. The hot and fermented blood mounted to his head—on the fifth day he was bled, too late!—he became aware of his danger, but again too late, for he was almost immediately after deprived of speech, and the loss of his gigantic mind followed. From the 16th, when he was bled, till the 19th when he died, he was desirous, muttered many unconnected sentences, broken words and wishes, but nothing that could be clearly defined or noted. He died perfectly fearless, without the slightest indication of weakness, and all his disjointed sentences gave token of this. From six in the morning of the 18th, till sixth in the evening of the 19th, he never stirred hand or foot, or showed the least sign of life, except low quick breathing—he then opened his eyes and then closed them instantly for ever. Having



left no directions on the point of his funeral, I consented to the wishes of his friends and household, to have his body preserved in spirits, and sent to England. I accompanied it to this island, to procure a vessel, when General Adam, Lord Sidney Osborn, and Sir F. Stoven, plotted together, not to allow the body to be sent to England, but even to inter it here in their ill-

governed island, that he abhorred. To thus obscurely shove him in a hole, like a dog, I opposed with all my might, as did those interested in his fame. Our expostulations and representations, with the fear of general execration, obliged them to give up their point. We chartered an English brig to convey the corpse to England."

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SOME address should be sent with letters requesting advice, as many will not suit publication.

CHARLES ALFRED must syringe his ears with warm water three or four times a day; also, take ten grains of Dover's powder, at night, once.

HAMPSTEAD should, before he rashly decides on his disease, take for a week or so, five drops of sulphuric acid, in water, twice a day—if the symptoms do not abate, he must then undergo a course of mercury.

R. W. NELMO is egregiously duped, we will next week publish the letter.

PUBLIUS.—We have given our opinion once, and repeat that it is an excellent medicine in indigestion.

G. B. Mount-pleasant, has been answered—but from an extreme press of business this week, the letter might have been mislaid at our publishers. His next shall be attended to, and he must state a full case.

CELSUS.—The terms are not exactly right.

AN OLD FEMALE. Attend strictly to warm bathing—at least twice a week, just before going to bed.

HOMO.—The pills will kill him if he does not desist.

A. Q. R. will find great relief from dry-rubbing with a coarse towel; attend to the regularity of the bowels, for without that nothing can be done—send a report next week.

FILIUS SEXTUS—Use no medicine, the very sight of a blue bottle should be avoided.

JOANNES.—Blister the side, and take a course of asses milk.

ESCULAPIUS is informed that the quacks shall never deter us from our duty—they may go to law—but—*let them*.

JULIA must take salt-water bathing—we shall give our opinions upon bathing soon.

H. R. A. will do well to rest and nothing else.

INFELIX must go into cheerful company—Margate and sea-bathing will serve him.

A. OF CAMBERWELL.—A blister of course.

A WELL WISHER.—Leave off the bark and take milk diet, but continue the powders.

SOMNUS—Take green tea—one cup after dinner.

L. D. OF BRISTOL is thanked. LAMERT *shall* of course come up.

If any letters remain unanswered this week, the neglect must be set down to the circumstance of our publishers having removed to another house in Paternoster Row.

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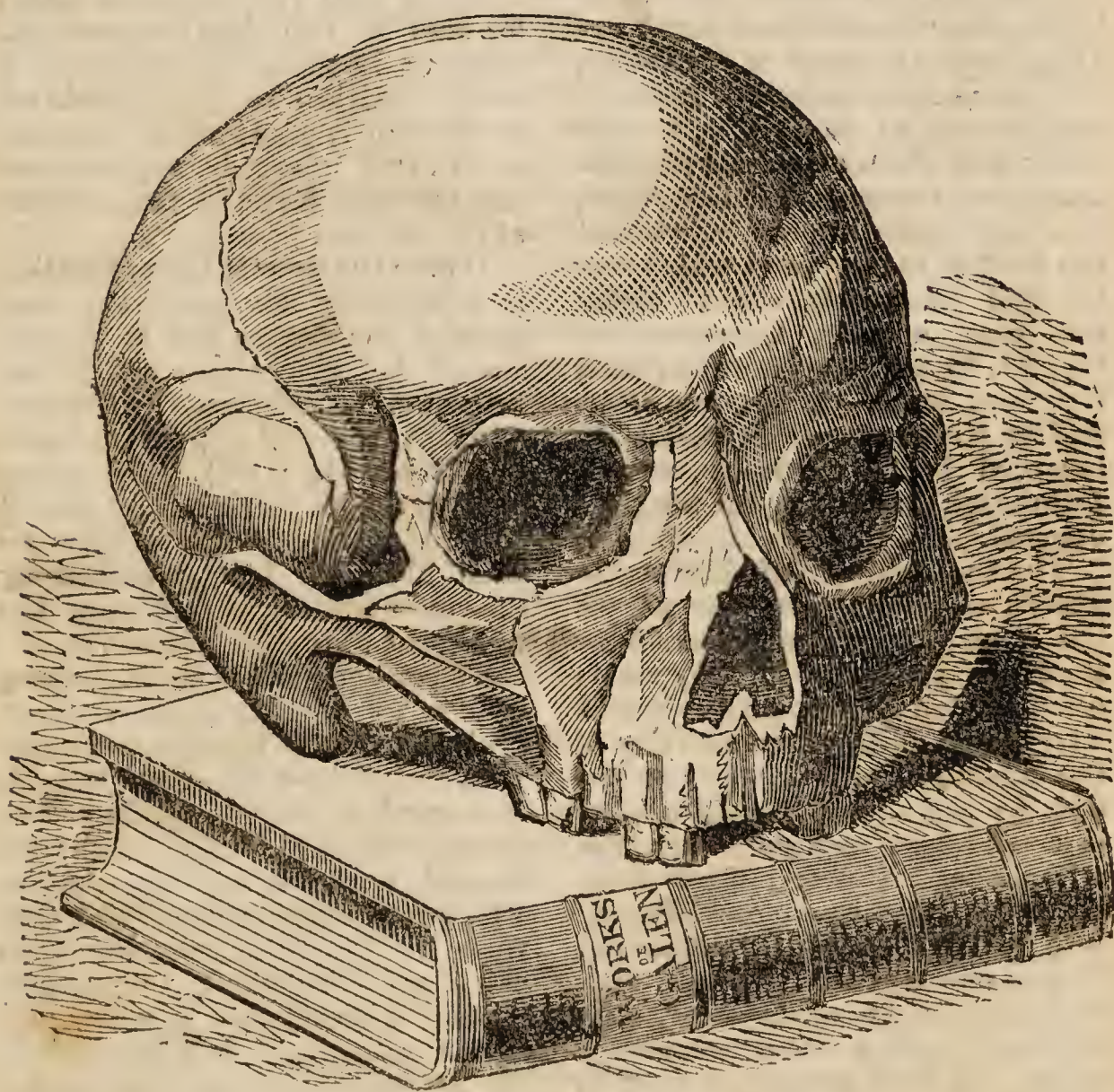
THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
AND  
GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 33.]

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



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## [ SCROFULA.

*(Continued from page 35.)*

REPEATED frictions simply with the hand, without any substance interposed, except perhaps a little flour to prevent the abrasion of the skin, and continued for a considerable length of time each day have been much recommended in indolently enlarged glands, and in some instances, apparently with a very good effect.

A case of this nature in a young lady, whose knee became much enlarged after an attack of Scarlatina, and which had resisted the repeated applications of leeches, and tepid water poured over it, while the submuriate of mercury, hemlock, lime, &c. were given internally, without the least advantage, and which was at last effectually cured under the care of Mr. Grovenor, of Oxford, by assiduous frictions with the bare hand, exercise on foot, and an occasional use of calomel, is recorded in the 29th No. of the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal*.

The application of blisters to glandular swellings of this nature has sometimes proved effectual in occasioning them to suppurate quicker than they otherwise would have done. Where the activity of the inflammation is on the decline and the swelling of a gland has become indolent and stationary, the stimulus of a blister imparts fresh vigour of action which possibly may dispose the swelling to suppurate. In some instances, both blistering and electricity have, however, been attended with a direct contrary effect, and have occasioned them to disperse.

When we fail in our attempt to disperse scrofulous swellings, and a suppuration has commenced, we are to promote and expedite this as much as we can. Poultices and other warm applications have little effect, however, in bringing forward these kind of tumours, and when long used, they tend to weaken and relax the part so much, that the sores which ensue are rendered

difficult of cure. Washing the parts with strong brine has been sometimes employed with success, and has expedited the formation of matter in scrofulous swelling. It is well known that scrofulous swellings suppurate very slowly, in spite of emollient poultices and other like applications; but it has been found that by taking off the atmospherical pressure from the most depending part of the tumour by means of a cupping-glass applied over it, for about an hour twice or thrice a day, for four or five days successively, applying immediately afterwards a warm poultice, so considerable an excitement is produced in the parts as to effect a speedy suppuration, and early discharge of the contents of the abscess.

Where the process of suppuration is sufficiently advanced, the contents of the abscess are to be evacuated by lancet at once, if the collection be not large; if otherwise, by repeated puncture at proper intervals, and the access of external air prevented by careful closure of the orifice, similar to what has been long practised by the most skilful surgeons in the treatment of lumbar abscess.

To correct the discharge, repress or destroy any luxuriant fungous growth, promote a proper suppuration, and dispose the ulcers to heal, it is usual to employ gentle escharotics, such as the hydrarg, nitric-oxygen, verdigris, and burnt alum, which may either be sprinkled over them, or be applied mixed up with some mild ointment, unguentum ceræ. Where there is a languid action in any sore, which suspends its progress towards amendment and renders it stationary, the use of gentle stimulants will be proper. A solution of the neutral or metallic salts, as the muriate of ammonia, oxymuriate of mercury, nitrate of silver, or the sulphate of zinc, will stimulate the ulcer to shoot forth granulations. A solution of the latter, in the proportion of from half a drachm to one drachm to about eight ounces of water, is considered by Mr. Goodlad to be the



best application that can be made to scrofulous sores that have suppurated and opened.

Scrofulous abscesses have been punctured, and the cavity afterwards injected with a solution of the sulphate of zinc, in the proportion of about eight grains of the latter to an ounce of the former with the best effects, as healthy inflammation has supervened, which terminates in adhesion, without any return of the complaint.

The application of linen cloths, dipped in cold water, sea-water, or lime-water, and renewed as frequently as they become dry throughout the course of the day, with that of some mild plaister or ointment, such as the *ceratum plumbi superacetatis* spread upon fine lint, by night, is a mode of treatment much recommended in scrofulous ulcers.

If these fail in healing the ulcers, the linen rags may be moistened with a solution of two drachms of the *plumbi superacetatis* in a pint of water, from which application I have seen very good effects derived. Dr. Darwin used powdered oak bark mixed with white lead.

Scrofulous ulcers, which have resisted many other remedies, have healed under a weak solution of nitric acid in water.

In sores which are spreading and irritable, the application of an aqueous solution of opium or of hemlock, and afterwards of a solution of zinc, may be beneficial.

Where the granulations rise above the surface, and are broad and flabby, and where pressure cannot be applied, the sorrel poultice has proved useful. The topical employment of bruised sorrel-leaves (*rumex acetosa*) has been strongly recommended, as contributing very much to the cicatrization of indolent scrofulous ulcers.

In sores of an ugly, gleeting, and ill-conditioned appearance, much benefit has been obtained by the application of a poultice made with crumbs of bread moistened with a solution of about an ounce of the crystals of soda in a quart of water.

The sub-borate of soda, in the proportion of half a drachm, or one

drachm, mixed in an ounce of *ceratum cetacei*, or *ceratum calaminæ*, has been found a useful and efficacious application to scrofulous ulcers; and by such dressings they have frequently been healed in a short space of time, after having resisted other modes of treatment.

Painful and deep seated ulcerations, the consequence of a scrofulous habit, and which are attended with much local irritation, have been relieved by a use of the Malvern waters. Applied to the sore, it moderates the profuseness of the discharge, corrects the fætor, which so peculiarly marks a caries of the bone, promotes the granulating process, and a salutary exfoliation of the carious part; and by a long perseverance in this course, very dangerous and obstinate cases have been at last entirely cured. Inflammation of the eyes, especially the Ophthalmia, which is so troublesome in scrofulous habits, often yields to this simple application.

It has already been observed, that diseases of the vertebræ, which in consequence of the softness of their bodies occasions a protrusion of their spinal processes, and a compression of the medulla, are frequently connected with scrofula. In such cases Mr. Pott depended principally on a drain, by issues applied on each side of the projecting spinal process, and in some of them successfully treated in this manner, confinement to an horizontal position was unavoidable. Sir James Earle, fully aware that issues were ineffectual, unless the superincumbent weight was removed from the morbid part, and objecting to the horizontal position, from its being irksome to the patient "weakening and relaxing, and consequently retarding the cure," as he expresses it, endeavoured to substitute a mean, betwixt the confinement to bed, and the pressure from an erect position.

He therefore recommended and employed a form of machinery which should take off the incumbent weight from the diseased vertebræ, and transfers it to the pelvis. Mr. Baynton, who is



the latest writer on diseases of the spine, having compared the opinions and practice of Mr. Pott and Sir James Earle, and from facts collected from the writings of other surgeons of eminence, has been induced to conclude, that a system of resting in an horizontal position, regulated by scientific principles, will accomplish the cure of diseases of the spine, after the failure of drains and machinery steadily continued a number of years, under the direction of skilful surgeons; and to substantiate the efficacy of the mode of treatment which he advises, he has recited the history of some cases which fell under his care. He is induced to suppose, that the success which attended the cases treated by Mr. Pott, by issues made with caustic, conjoined with an horizontal position, during the greatest part of the cures, as the patients could not bear to remain upright, was more owing to the uninterrupted rest they enjoyed, than to the effects of the drains from the neighbourhood of the diseased portion of the spine.

Great doubts have indeed been entertained by other practitioners, respecting the efficacy of caustics, in caries of the spine, and they have recommended in their stead, occasional cupping, repeated blisters, aperients, the muriate of lime, a milk diet, and long continued repose in an horizontal position, and particularly at the commencement of the disease.

#### APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued.)

##### OF WINE, WATER, AND MILK.

**HIP.** Wine with a like proportion of water being drunk, dissolves yawning, sorrow, and cold shaking.

**COOK.** For it dissolves wind, provokes sweat and urine, and helps cold affects. See diet, aphor. 7, 8, 9.

**ED.** True.

**HIP.** Water that is quickly made hot, and as soon cools, is most light.

**COOK.** This shews what water is best.

**ED.** True.

**HIP.** It is not good to give milk to those troubled with the headache or with agues, or to those troubled with wind in their sides, or thirsty; it is also naught for them who void bilious excrements downward, those who have sharp fevers, or have had some copious evacuation of blood: but it is good for those in a consumption, if not troubled with a violent fever; it is also good in long lingering and mild fevers, if there be none of the aforesaid signs, and they that are brought low without any apparent reason or occasion.

**COOK.** It is forbidden to those thirsty only, that are so from abundance of bile and putrid humours; the reason of its illness in the fore-cited diseases, see in those several diseases, and its use in those wherein it is good, as phthisis, &c.

**ED.** True.

#### INDEX, AND SIGNS FROM SPITTLE.

**COOK.** See in crisis, aphor. 1. which explicates both.

**HIP.** Excrements voided in non-intermitting fevers by spitting, if of a lead colour, bloody, foetid, or bilious, they are all ill: but if they come forth fitly, they are good: there is the same order in stools and urine; but yet, if they do not ease and help, it is dangerous.

**COOK.** This shews the crisis exclusion; which is good, which is bad; as by spitting in the pleurisie: leady colour is from extinction of the part's heat, whence it comes; bloody, when some vessel is opened; foetid, is a sign nature is vanquished, and native heat decaying; bilious wants concoction, &c.

**ED.** True; but the philosophy of it is incorrect.

**HIP.** Crudities voided downwards are from atra-bile; if many, the disease is greater; if less quantity, the lesser.

**COOK.** It is supposed none of Hippocrates's, and labours much of obscurity.

**ED.** A truism.

#### OF SWEATS.

**HIP.** Much sweating caused by



sleep without any manifest cause, signifies the body fed with much food ; but if this happen to one that feedeth sparingly, it shews the body wants evacuation.

COOK. Every sweat which appears without cause manifest, is contrary to nature. For the last part, evacuation is needful by reason of the ill excrements, the cause of that sweating.

ED. True.

HIP. Much cold or hot sweat flowing always ; the cold signifies the greater disease, the hot a lesser.

COOK. These signify abundance of humours ; the cold, of cold humours, which is worse ; the hot, of hot, which is less dangerous.

ED. True.

HIP. Sweat coming often upon one sick of an ague not ceasing, is ill ; for the disease is prolonged, and it signifies there is much moisture.

COOK. That is, a great deal of filth which cannot easily be mitigated, and argue the infirmity of the solid parts.

ED. True.

HIP. Cold sweat in acute fevers signifies death ; with a milder disease, the length thereof.

COOK. In acute fevers it shews a multitude of cold and crude humours, which cannot in so little time be concocted, the natural heat being very weak, and that debilitated by the violence of the disease. But in a more gentle, strength is not so weakened, so that nature may have more time to concoct.

ED. True.

HIP. Cold shakings after sweating is not good.

COOK. For it is either a sign that only the useful humours were evacuated, and the vessels kept their station, or that only a part of the depraved humours were evacuated : so that it shews nature either so weak that she cannot expel the diseased matter, or the humours so strong that they give nature the foil.

ED. True.

HIP. Sweats if they begin with fevers, are good, and breaking forth on the 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 14, 20, 21, 27,

31, and 34 days : for these sweats make the dissolution of the disease ; but those which happen otherwise signify pain, length of the disease, and relapses.

COOK. Because acute diseases are moved upon the odd days, these sweatings are to be accompanied with manifest signs of concoction, chillness going before from the whole body being hot ; copious dropping and with vapours, by which the disease is either taken away, or diminished.

ED. True ; but Cook's concoction again is nonsense.

HIP. Those who have their skin arid and hard, die without sweating ; but those who have a loose and open skin, end their life with sweat.

COOK. He speaks of those in fevers, whose skin was soft before, which dryness ariseth from the wasting of the spirits and solid parts : the other is by reason the whole frame of the retentive faculty is resolved.

ED. This is an absurdity.

HIP. Much sweat, hot or cold, frequently issuing forth, signifies abundance of humours, which in a strong body evacuate upwards, in a weak downwards.

COOK. If the sick vomit easily, or be much prone to it, then rather vomit than purge.

ED. True.

#### OF URINES.

HIP. It is behoveful to observe the urine, whether it be such as is made in health ; for that which is unlike, is insalubrious ; but those which are like, are healthful.

COOK. This is rejected by Galen, and left out by Heurnius : if it say any thing, it acquaints us, we should be acquainted with the water in health, that so we may be better able to judge of that which is diseased.

ED. Old woman's talk.

HIP. Also when the sediment, if you suffer them to rest and do not move them, sinks down into the bottom like shavings of guts or such like matter ; if they be few, they signify the disease but little ; if many, it is great ; then it is ne-



cessary to evacuate the belly downwards; otherwise if you give broth and nourishment without purging the belly, the more thou givest, the more thou shalt offend.

COOK. This, Galen thinks, is none of Hippocrates's.

ED. However it is true.

HIP. Urines in a fever that are thick, full of humours and little, if after they void them thin and in good quantity, it is helpful; but those chiefly are such, which have a sediment at the beginning or presently after.

COOK. By thick urines, understand such as are very crass, or are always troubled or muddy; by grumous, such as have many clods or lumps in them, such as are made at the beginning, proceeding from phlegm; for thickness is from multitude of thick humours, lumps from much phlegm dried up by the heat of the liver. These urines then are made in little quantity, because nature is then employed to retain it; but when the humour is concocted, the urine appears thinner, or that perturbation ceasing, it comes forth in greater quantity; and by how much the more plentifully it is evacuated, by so much the more it helps. By thin urine is meant, not that which is so indeed, but that whose muddy distemper is taken away by concoction.

ED. Cook, as usual in the clouds.

HIP. Those who have their urine troubled or unclean in agues, such as are the waters of cattle, have, or shall have head-aches

COOK. Such urines oft appear in pestilential fevers, they shew perturbation in the veins from wind and abundance of crude humours, which are easily sent to the head with the heat, and so fill the head.

HIP. Those that have hopes of an abscess to come in the joints, much urine, thick and white, delivers them from the fear thereof; such are wont to be voided in painful fevers the fourth day; when also there is bleeding at the nose, it will happen more speedily.

COOK. So that by urines we may judge; for those urines purge out the humours which would cause

the abscess if they bleed, because the cause is carried away two ways.

ED. False.

HIP. Where the crisis of the disease is on the seventh day, there appears in the urine of such persons, a little red cloud on the fourth day, other things agreeing.

COOK. Observe, he here speaks only of the sediment; and if a red cloud indicate a crisis, much more a white, as coming nearer to that which is best, which is that which settles in the bottom of the urine, which is white and smooth, and equal; that which hangeth in the middle, is less commendable; that in the top, worst.

ED. True.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Swallowing Tobacco-smoke to cure Worms.*

Dangerous and useless.

*Placing a Key to the back of the Neck, to stop a bleeding at the Nose.*

This is a good application, it acts by cold.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A Mixture good in Worms.*

Take gentian root bruised,  
Wormwood leaves,  
Rue leaves,  
Lemon-peel, of each two drachms,  
Warm water one pint. Infuse them for an hour, and then strain off the liquor. Of this infusion three table-spoonsful may be taken twice or thrice a day.

*Lotion for Burns or Scalds.*

Take of solution of the acetate of lead, one drachm,  
Distilled water, one pint,  
Rectified spirit, half an ounce.—  
Mix them.

### FRENCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Continued from p. 24, Vol. II.)

*"L'Hospital des Enfants Malades."*

*The Hospital for Sick Children.*

THE Count ALMAVIVA said jocosely to Doctor BARTHOLO, that



the difference which existed between the surgeon and the horse-doctor was, that the former gabbled incessantly to his patients without curing them, whilst the latter generally cured his *quadruped* invalids, but never consoled them by even *one* syllable of conversation.

A physician, charged with the direction of an hospital, exclusively instituted for the reception of children, the greatest number of whom are at that tender age when they cannot express their sufferings but by cries and tears, they cannot give any of those signs called anamnestic, so necessary for the establishment of the symptoms and treatment of the disease; Monsieur *Jadelot*, therefore, in such cases, has endeavoured to determine at the first glance, and by external signs, the nature of the disease with which the infants, received into his hospital, are infected. He depends a little too much on his experience of reading the countenance, and frequently deceives himself in those opinions with regard to the patient's disorder. But he is by no means so great a devotee to the opinions of *Lavater* as to depend in all cases on physiognomical judgment, where the disease of a patient requires more minute inquiry. The number of infant invalids of the hospital of M. *Jadelot* amounts sometimes to *seven* or *eight hundred*. They are classed according to their sex and disease; one ward is set apart for those who require *chirurgical* assistance—another for those who labour under painful diseases. Cases of *Small-pox*, *Scrofulus*, *Scurf*, and *Itch*, are arranged in wards, specially appointed for each of those diseases; and good order and cleanliness reign throughout the whole.

The wards for scrofulous children appear to us the least useful. It cannot be supposed a good means of expediting the cure of those patients who shew incipient symptoms by shutting them up in an impure atmosphere, and thus depriving them of wholesome exercise. With this exception, the general treatment of the scrofulous patients is

excellent. Tonics, wholesome food, and beverage, are particularly attended to; in short, *nothing* is forgotten or neglected.

We remarked a rickety child, who was scarce three years old, to whom they applied cauteries on each side of the dorsal spine on account of *vertebral* deviation.

Do we often find the cariousness of the spinal column at so tender an age? The English surgeons distinguish the rickety from the carious affection. This distinction is admitted by some French authors; but others confound both, under the title of *Gibbosity*, and are led by this error to a dangerous course of practice. If the appearance be taken of the lateral curving, it perhaps may be at first of some utility to discover whether the deformity proceeds from rickets or cariousness. This sign will direct the proper treatment; for although internal remedies and regimen should always be the same in both cases, in the one you must abstain from caustics, and prescribe pure air and moderate exercise; in the other, you should recommend repose, an inclined posture, and the application of cauteries.

We remarked with pleasure the proof of the confidence which generally exists among the lower orders in France, on the beneficial effects of *vaccination*. The wards of the *Infant Hospital* contain very few cases of small pox, although all the children of the poor may be admitted therein, the moment they become infected by it.

But, let us resume the subject of "scurf" (or) "scald head." The scurfy wards are invariably full. M. *Jadelot* having removed the scurfy scabs, by emollient applications; in shaving the head, generally uses a *hydrosulphurate ointment of potass*.

We have seen a different treatment practised by another physician, who applied after the cataplasm, an ointment composed of caustic potass, and lard, or oil, which in a few days caused the hair to drop off, or at least removable without pain to the patients.



We have been enabled to compare the two modes of treatment. When the caustic was applied for the removal of the hair, immediately after its action in producing baldness, the hair began to grow again profusely; the caustic removed the hair only, by *tufts*, detached from the parts affected by scurf: and in cases, where the *scull* was only partially affected, M. Jadelot did not consider it necessary to shave the head wholly, until the hydrosulphurate ointment was applied.

The physicians who superintend this hospital have extensive experience in the treatment of "scurf." They do not however pretend that the cure may be effected promptly, and although always certain of success, they admit, that, in some bad cases, it requires more than *six months* to effect a recovery.

The "itch" wards appeared to us badly regulated; and the *SMELL* arising from the *sulphur of potass*, which M. Jadelot continually uses in all cases of "itch," whether by baths, or various other applications, is abominably offensive. The sulphur of potass, for an ordinary bath, is given in the proportion of *five ounces*, dissolved in eighty "*LITRES*," or, of water, at 97° of Fahrenheit's thermometer. A week is sufficient for a complete cure; and if two baths be taken every twenty-four hours, it will be effected in four or five days.

If the use of sulphurous baths has experienced less criticism than the ointment alluded to, the cause is, that the baths are not as generally known for the treatment of psoric maladies; but, they have, waving every other remedy, the most offensive of all disagreeable scents; they present more inconvenience, and the cure is by far more tedious.

The hydrosulphurous soap-liniment is preferable, as it is less foetid than the brimstone ointment, were it equally efficacious. By using it twice a day, in eight days, the cure will be certain. Yet M. Jadelot invariably and exclusively uses the baths, as above described, in his hospital for "infant invalids."

We have a little more to say on

the clinical lectures, delivered in this hospital. They are thinly attended, as the pupils must pay for them, and little improvement can be expected, on an extensive scale, where the students cannot obtain a gratuitous admission to attend them.

## OF APPARENT DEATH.

THERE are numerous stories on record of the mere semblance of death having been mistaken for the reality; and fearful consequences are represented as having necessarily ensued. These consequences have been, 1st. The cessation of those aids and attentions which the subjects of debilitating maladies peculiarly require, and to the sedulous administration of which so many recoveries are constantly owing, when the resources of medicine can enable the physician to do little more than look on; 2dly. The precipitate application of the scalpel; and, 3dly. The interment of a person yet alive.

With respect to the first of these, happily there is little real cause for apprehension. Practitioners who understand, are the most likely to perform all their duties; and it will be in the hands of very few, either that a patient exhausted by disease will be prematurely considered beyond the reach of medical aid, or that a person in a state of suspended animation, from whatever cause, will be neglected. Cases, however, do occur, in which the similitude of real death is strong; and many are upon record, where subsequent recovery has taken place.

The second consequence to be dreaded, on such occasions, is the precipitate employment of the scalpel, whether for the purpose of extricating a child (yet alive) from destruction in the womb of its supposed dead mother,—of ascertaining the cause of the death of the patient, or for the purposes of the anatomical school. We have many stories of this nature on record, some of which are, no doubt, too well authenticated.

Phillipe Peu relates of himself,



that he proceeded too rashly in a case of the first description, although he had employed tests which were considered conclusive, as to the impossibility of the presence of life. The fright into which he was thrown caused him to resolve never again to attempt that operation under such circumstances. In cases of the second description, we must admit the possibility of misadventure, but ought to charge such possibility to the account of culpable misconduct on the part of the medical practitioner, were it to occur under circumstances of an ordinary nature—at least in this country. Yet the great Vesalius owed the manner of his untimely death to an accusation of this nature. The Abbé Prevôt, celebrated in the republic of letters, was in the year 1763 attacked with apoplexy. In order to verify the nature of his death, the body was opened by authority. “At the first stroke of the scalpel,” says Foderé, “the Abbé uttered a cry, which announced that he was yet of this world.”

Vague rumours have perhaps reached the ears of all who have pursued anatomical studies, in a practical manner, of the resuscitation of individuals in the dissecting-room; to which, malice, probably, in the first instance, and credulity or thoughtlessness, in the sequel, (favoured by an innate propensity to adopt as true that which is merely wonderful, or if true, would be horrible,) have appended still more awful transactions.

The third mentioned consequence of mistakes as to the reality of death was premature interment. Much pains have been taken to throw the occurrence of so dreadful an event into utter discredit. For my own part, if I must believe the above and many similar accounts of mistakes committed by professional men, I would ask wherein consists the impropriety of supposing it possible for the vulgar to be deceived? And if, on the other hand, the credibility of the same accounts be so slender as to make it ridiculous to attach any importance to them, the same objection will hold against all other re-

corded occurrences whatever; for these are adduced under as respectable evidence as that of any phenomenon that stands upon record. Against these statements, therefore, the mere *diffido* of any individual whatever is no authority. But I am not disposed to receive, on the same terms, all those terrible stories of the after sufferings of the buried-alive. In by far the great majority of such events, recovery must be impossible; and, even, were certain powers to renew their action, it must be in a very imperfect degree, and for a very short space; while the renewal of sensibility can hardly be taken at all into account, and the return of consciousness is utterly inconceivable.

These remarks are to be considered applicable chiefly to the circumstances in which we are placed in this country; than which there is none where greater solicitude is cherished as to the disposal of the dead. The most wretched and forlorn, whatever may be their sufferings while yet alive, become objects of assiduous and sometimes of tender care when dead. Those who might not have perceived that a fellow-creature would have been preserved from death by a morsel of bread, or some attentions of small cost and trouble, will frequently fatigue themselves and spend their money, in the most religious manner, to insure to the corpse its rights. In other places, this happiness is by no means so secure. When people die, they are often deemed an incumbrance; and it becomes a matter of great moment to huddle them out of sight with the utmost possible dispatch.

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#### REMARKABLE CASE OF SPECTRAL ILLUSIONS.

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ONE of the most authentic instances that has ever been recorded of spectral illusions, is contained in the curious narrative written many years ago by Nicolai, the famous bookseller and author of Berlin. It is, indeed, a case which affords correct data for investigation relative to the belief in apparitions; on which account, I shall take the liberty of transcribing the



narrative in this essay, however frequently it may have appeared before the public.

“Those who pretend to have seen and heard ghosts,” says this writer, “obstinately maintain, that they perceived these apparitions by means of their senses. In order to defeat that belief, we generally desire them to consider how many people have been imposed upon by artful novices, and how liable we are to deceive ourselves; we advise them to lay hold of the supposed spectres, assuring them, that they are generally found to be of a very corporeal nature. But those who have a predilection for the miraculous pay no regard to these objections; insisting, that the productions of their disordered imaginations are real beings. We cannot, therefore, collect too many of such well-substantiated facts, as show how easily our imagination imposes on us erroneous notions, and deludes not only delirious persons, but even those who are in the full possession of their faculties, by causing them to see phantoms which scarcely can be distinguished from real appearances.

“I have myself experienced a case of this nature, which to me appears highly remarkable, both psychologically and medicinally:—I saw, in a state of mind completely sound, and after the first terror was over, with perfect calmness, for nearly two months, almost constantly and involuntarily, a vast number of human and other forms, and even heard their voices, though all this was merely the consequence of a diseased state of the nerves, and an irregular circulation of the blood.”

The narrator now explains the state of his system at the time; but this important part of the account not being at present connected with our subject, it will be noticed in its proper place.

“I had, in January and February of the year 1791,” continues this author, “the additional misfortune to experience several extremely unpleasant circumstances, which were followed on the 24th of February, by a most violent altercation. My wife and another person came into my apartment in the

morning, in order to console me, but I was too much agitated by a series of incidents, which had most powerfully affected my moral feeling, to be capable of attending to them. On a sudden, I perceived; at about the distance of ten steps, a form like that of a deceased person. I pointed at it, asking my wife if she did not see it? It was but natural that she should not see any thing; my question, therefore, alarmed her very much, and she sent immediately for a physician. The phantasm continued about eight minutes. I grew at length more calm, and being extremely exhausted, fell into a restless sleep, which lasted about half an hour. The physician ascribed the apparition to a violent mental emotion, and hoped there would be no return; but the violent agitation of my mind had in some way disordered my nerves, and produced farther consequences, which deserve a more minute description.

“At four in the afternoon, the form which I had seen in the morning re-appeared. I was by myself when this happened, and being rather uneasy at the incident, went to my wife’s apartment, but there likewise I was prevented by the apparition, which, however, at intervals disappeared, and always presented itself in a standing posture. About six o’clock there appeared also several walking figures, which had no connexion with the first.”

Nicolai now makes some very important remarks on the subject of these waking dreams, and on their incongruous character. Of these observations I shall not fail to avail myself on another occasion. The narrative then proceeds after the following manner:—

“After the first day the form of the deceased person no more appeared, but its place was supplied with many other phantasms, sometimes representing acquaintances, but mostly strangers; those whom I knew were composed of living and deceased persons, but the number of the latter was comparatively small. I observed the persons with whom I daily conversed did not



appear as phantasms, these representing chiefly persons who lived at some distance from me.

“These phantasms seemed equally clear and distinct at all times, and under all circumstances, both when I was by myself, and when I was in company, and as well in the day as at night, and in my own house as well as abroad; they were, however, less frequent when I was in the house of a friend, and rarely appeared to me in the street. When I shut my eyes, these phantasms would sometimes vanish entirely, though there were instances when I beheld them with my eyes closed, yet, when they disappeared on such occasions, they generally returned when I opened my eyes. I conversed sometimes with my physician and my wife of the phantasms which at the moment surrounded me; they appeared more frequently walking than at rest, nor were they constantly present. They frequently did not come for some time, but always re-appeared for a longer or shorter period, either single or in company, the latter, however, being most frequently the case. I generally saw human forms of both sexes, but they usually seemed not to take the smallest notice of each other, moving as in a market-place, where all are eager to press through the crowd; at times, however, they seemed to be transacting business with each other. I also saw several times people on horseback, dogs, and birds. All these phantasms appeared to me in their natural size, and as distinct as if alive, exhibiting different shades of carnation in the uncovered parts, as well as in different colours and fashions in their dresses, though the colours seemed somewhat paler than in real nature; none of the figures appeared particularly terrible, comical, or disgusting, most of them being of an indifferent shape, and some presenting a pleasing aspect. The longer these phantoms continued to visit me, the more frequently did they return, while, at the same time, they increased in number about four weeks after they had first appeared. I also began to

hear them talk; the phantoms sometimes conversed among themselves, but more frequently addressed their discourse to me; their speeches were commonly short, and never of an unpleasant turn. At different times there appeared to me both dear and sensible friends of both sexes, whose addresses tended to appease my grief, which had not yet wholly subsided; their consolatory speeches were in general addressed to me when I was alone. Sometimes, however, I was accosted by these consoling friends while I was engaged in company, and not unfrequently while real persons were speaking to me. These consolatory addresses consisted sometimes of abrupt phrases, and at other times they were regularly executed.

“Though my mind and body were in a tolerable state of sanity all this time, and these phantasms became so familiar to me that they did not cause me the slightest uneasiness, and though I even sometimes amused myself with surveying them, and spoke jocularly of them to my physician and my wife, I yet did not neglect to use proper medicines, especially when they began to haunt me the whole day, and even at night, as soon as I awaked.”

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

HAVING been a subscriber to your valuable publication since its commencement, and found some very useful hints in its pages, I was rather surprised at not having met with any thing to prevent the contagion of the disease so fatal to the juvenile branches of the population, the small pox; although there are many institutions where vaccination is performed gratis.

On my late tour to the Netherlands, I was highly gratified in seeing a decree of the king in the newspapers, wherein he ordered, that no pupil shall be admitted into the national public schools or into the different orphan asylums, without producing a



certificate from a physician that the child had had the natural small pox, or had been successfully inoculated; this edict is faithfully complied with, as the preceptors of these schools are liable to a penalty in not complying with this order so beneficial to mankind in general.

Although I am a foreigner, still I admire the great pains, and the enormous sums laid out for the education of the poorer classes in this country; and I believe that if the above plan could be adopted in England, it would save the life or disfigurement of many of the younger branches of the community.

Should you think my suggestion worth your inserting it in your valuable publication, I shall feel most happy that it may meet the eye of some of the legislators, who would make it their study in proposing the plan to parliament, and obtaining the necessary orders.

I remain,  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
D.

*New Street, Bishopsgate,  
July 6th, 1824.*

### GENTIAN ROOT; ITS QUALITIES, &c.

GENTIAN is a perennial plant, found growing on the Alps of Switzerland and Austria, the Appenines, the Pyrenees, and in North America. The roots are brought to this country from Germany. They are in pieces of various lengths and thickness, twisted, wrinkled on the outside, and covered with brownish grey cuticle. They have no particular odour, and the taste is intensely bitter, without being nauseous. When cut transversely, the pieces exhibit a yellow maculated heart, with thick bark, verging to brown. The sensible qualities of gentian are extracted by ether, alcohol, and water. The two former extract a resin and a little extractive matter, and the latter, some part of these, and a considerable quantity of mucilage also, which occasions the infusion often to become ropy. Diluted alcohol is its

proper menstruum. In the bitter extractive the virtues of the drug seem to reside.

Gentian is tonic, stomachic, and in large doses, aperient. Its uses as a stomachic bitter, is of very ancient date; and it is still, perhaps, the most generally employed of this class of medicines. It has been found beneficial in dyspepsia, gout, hysteria, and jaundice, dropsy, and diarrhoea, and in all cases of general debility, in which tonics are indicated. It is sometimes joined with bark. On account of its antiseptic effects on dead animal matter, its infusion has been used as an application to putrid ulcers. The forms in which it is generally given are infusion and tincture. The dose, in substance, is from ten grains to twenty.

### PLUMB PUDDING EXAMINED.

THIS is one of the relics of barbarous cookery;—a compilation of grossness, gastronomically unscientific, and pre-eminently unwholesome. Sugar, dough, and fat are its basis, and in such proportion, that its lighter ingredients have not power to redeem its crudity.

No wonder John Bull is dyspeptic, hypochondriac, and suicidal, when plumb puddings and malt-liquor occupy his stomach so often. Boiled dough is the food of his youth—solid, stone-like dough,—and when, he grows up, he mollifies his mess with sugar and raisins; scarcely a day passes without a wedge of his favourite dish—plumb-pudding: and then he mopes and drinks his ale, until a sufficient quantity of *coccus indicus*, or opium, or bangué—the narcotic portion of his beverage—nods him down to sleep. Yet John wonders why he suffers from indigestion! Leave off plumb-pudding. The French, who know better than we do, the science of cookery, laugh at us for still patronizing it. We know what it is to oppose a popular prejudice,—we did so with cravats and marriage-beds, but we cannot blink truth.





## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

No City in Europe permits so much quackery as London, as our "Annals" shew. There are state quacks, religious quacks, law quacks, and literary quacks, in abundance; but the quackery of *physic* and *surgery* has extended so widely, that scarcely a street in the metropolis is without one of those pretenders to medical knowledge. This evil is nurtured by the credulity of the English people; a weakness which they possess, even in a greater degree than their cajolers do impudence and ignorance. The public journals are filled with the extraordinary successes of those men, their nostrums and lies; and some of them have paid even so much as £4000. yearly for advertisements *alone*!! The princely residence at Liverpool, of the late charlatan, called "Doctor Solomon," is a superb monument of English folly and credulity. This speculating Jew knew their weak points and profited by them. Dr. Brodum's "*Nervous Balsam*" produced £4000. a year, and the Rakasiri of the Jordon's has put the proprietor into his carriage.

Jordan knew that if a man could expend a sum in advertising "*brick-dust*" as an *infallible powder*, or coloured "*gin and water*" as a *universal remedy*, that he would soon find his purse filled very far beyond the expences of advertisements. Solomon's "*Cordial Balm of Gilead*" was very little varied from Usquebaugh, yet, in the course of a few years, it realized a splendid fortune for its Hebrew compounder. We have one fellow calling himself *Doctor Peed*, who a few years ago was a *Brewer's Drayman*! We have a surgical establishment in Smithfield conducted by an old woman! The two Jewish, im-

postors (the "Jordans") who have drawn largely on our good sense and pockets, by advertising that they *both* had a—"Golden Dream (or) Vision," whereby they have been gifted by *supernatural* powers to cure *all* diseases; and it has proved a "Golden Dream" indeed to those dreaming Israelites, who, it clearly appears, have not, on this point, been at all *asleep*. One Humbugger (Van Butchell), formed his reputation on a *Beard*; as others have done, and continue to do, upon a "*Board*"—"Medical Boards," as they are called. This has for some time past been the *wholesale* plan for gulling a credulous public. "Follow the leader" was the order of the day; one of those iniquitous *gangs*, (the Charlotte-street banditti of medicine), succeeded so well, that others were tempted to imitate their nefarious example; another Quack "*Board*" was started at Newington, identified with which we find a man who has been an "Apothecary to the Forces," supported by old Dr. Nisbett on his right, and a half-pay Captain on his left. But we have laid open this board of worthies before.

The public had been a long time imposed on by Sir Columbine Daniels, the Israelite (since defunct, thank heaven! for the sake of his patients,) under the specious cover of a "*Medical Board*" and from which, doubtless, the gentlemen above noticed, took the hint. This anti-medical, or sign, or shop-*Board* consisted of Daniels, and members whom he *consulted* on *all* cases! These vampires contrived to bleed and physic their ill-starred patients to some purpose, and between them they declared, (upon the "*New Testament*"), that they had cured THIRTY THOUSAND PERSONS!! "*Credat Judæus.*"

This *Duo-in-uno* Quack-Knight commenced his career by selling nostrums to sailors, and with such success, that he was induced to look upon himself, as possessing talent equal to *three*, he therefore introduced "Cooper and Co." for his *first* and *second* person, while for his third, he reserved the dig-



nity of Consultor and *Treasurer* to the "BOARD!!"—Something like Goss and Co. We have quacks advertising their *Lectures*, who can't read a line; others publishing the *history* of their lives! replete with disgusting anecdotes, in which egotism, ignorance, falsehood, and filth are indiscriminately huddled together. "Sir Col—" "Sir Charles," and Sir, the Lord knows who! puff themselves off

under their newly acquired titles, which seldom fails to recommend them to the stupid credulity of the many, while it appears in its true colours of hypocrisy and empyricism to the few, a mass of ridicule and contempt.

The "Ægis of Life," too!—but this disgusting libel on decency is too well known and despised to require comment.

WE in a previous number related an anecdote of Dr. McDonald, which has given rise to the following—

### TALE OF A BLISTER.

There's a knack in those "doctors," who scorn a degree,  
That is, — coming, short-cut, at a cure or a fee,  
While the men, who move on, by collegiate rules,  
Are, for want of the latter knack, often thought fools.  
We have *doctors*, who scarcely plain English can speak,  
Yet, will cure you, by contract, *ten thousand* a week!  
Who will take you in hand, as a cobbler a shoe,  
Heel and vamp you right well, for a shilling or two:  
Who will make you stand proof against all kinds of weather,  
And remarkably prove there is "nothing like leather."

One of *these* worthies went once a visit to pay  
To a cheese-monger, over in Surrey, they say,  
Who lay roaring and kicking, and flound'ring in bed,  
"From some cause," as the wonderful Doctor Puff said.  
Lo! the curtains he draws, and with look so profound,  
Felt his customer's pulse,—hemmed—and nodded, and frown'd,  
And inform'd the good wife, who stood list'ning beside,  
That his head should be shav'd, and a blister applied.  
Now, this remedy, tho' 'twas severe, yet, of course,  
She agreed to adopt, lest the man should grow worse;  
"For he makes such a noise that I cannot endure him,"  
Said the wife, "I'd do any thing, doctor, to cure him."  
The cheese-monger kick'd, but the wife, who was *master*,  
Had him held—his head shaved,—and then put on the plaster;  
Which they fix'd from the nape of his neck to each eye,  
Put his head in a night-cap, then left it to fry.

The next day Doctor Puff made his visit, to see  
What the effects of his skill were,—and pocket his fee:  
He was met with a smile;—said the wife, "Sir, all's right;"  
He's as well as before—he lay still the whole night."  
Now, the cheese-monger, calm, as the man that had slept  
His mad spirits away,—(rum and brandy yclept),  
Having faint recollection of what had been done,  
Said, "you've cured me dear doctor, as sure as a gun;"  
"But by G—," said he, swearing, "I'd much rather die,  
Than I'd ever such a damnable remedy try."  
Now, the fact is, the blister was *not* on his head,  
It rubbed off, and in rubbing, got down in the bed.



"Let me look at the parts"—Cheese, as sour as a Turk  
 Threw the clothes off, and muttered—"There, look at your work,  
 If the *blistering* my head was so certain to mend,  
 Damme ! how could you think of an *opposite end*."

\* \* \* \* \*

Here the MS was torn, but the tale ended by the calling in of Mr. Goss, and the whole Charlotte-street Medical Board, to restore the damage done by M'Donald's blister !



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY

### *Professional Death of Dr. Healy of Manchester.*

DIED on Monday last, at his residence, Oldham, near Manchester, in the prime of life, "DR. JOSEPH HEALY, Q.R.F." better known as "*The little, snub-nosed, gin-drinking, radical Doctor.*" His death was occasioned by an overdose of the concentrated essence of truth, administered by one of his surviving patients, through the medium of the "Medical Adviser" of Saturday, June 26. The funeral is to correspond with the worth of the deceased while living. The procession, consisting of his *disconsolate and amiable widow*, and the surviving patients, *three* in number, will accompany the corpse of the learned Doctor to the place of interment, "QUACK'S CORNER." The following is proposed as his

#### EPITAPH.

Interr'd beneath this ponderous stone,  
 A Charlatan there lies;  
 "Pills, plasters, dishes," all are gone;  
 Grim Death has closed his eyes!  
 Half fool and half a rogue was he,—  
 A canting singer—for gain;  
 His friends with one accord agree,  
 The devil's got a bargain !  
 Ye weavers, mourn your craftsman's lot —  
 Joe Healy is no more ;  
 His wondrous skill avail'd him not,  
 When Death knock'd at the door !

[Should this turn out a hoax, as we more than suspect it to be, we hope Healy will profit by it, and betake himself to the loom again.]  
 EDITOR.

*Dr. Brodum.*—We must contradict a statement which appeared in our last number but one, and which set forth that we had seen Dr. Brodum's diploma. The paragraph was put in without our sanction or knowledge. We *did not* see Dr. Brodum's diploma. He shewed us a few certificates, but certificates are not diplomas.

With regard to his being an attendant at the synagogue, we know nothing about it, and care less. This contradiction was by accident left out of our last number.—  
 EDITOR.

*Wens.*—Sheriff Laurie has wisely taken our hint, he has given orders to prevent the superstitious and disgusting practice of rubbing dead criminal's hands to wens, for the purpose of curing them. We trust that the custom is now permanently abolished.

*Goss and Co.'s Ægis.*—We are convinced that whoever furnished this mock company with the title of "*Ægis of Life*," for their book, was a wag.—"*Ægis*" was the shield of Minerva, upon which was the head of one of the Gorgons, and to look upon it was *instant death* ! The wag knew what he was about.—Goss's book may be well called the *Ægis of Death*.

*Prussic Acid.*—This is one of the new medicines, which has been, as yet, shut out from general practice,



from a certain ignorant prejudice attendant upon habits; the following character is given of it in Mr Thompson's "London Dispensatory."—"No remedy is so well adapted as an adjunct to tonics, for removing those dyspeptic affections which are attended with acidity of the stomach, and accompanied with heat and soreness of the tongue. In these cases it reduces the morbid irritability of the stomach, and thereby enables the juices of that organ to be more slowly secreted, and of a more healthy character."—(page 918.)

*The Weather.*—Lord Byron was justly satirical upon our climate, when he said that the English winter ends in July to commence again in August. Was there ever such weather as we have been persecuted with for the last two months? Every one is in the horrors about it except the doctors and the undertakers. Go where you will you meet with nothing but long hypochondriacal faces, wet hats, and muddy boots. "*Miserable day*," rings in your ears from

all quarters; and miserable looking countenances, in curls and feathers, look from the windows upon the dripping streets which cruelly forbid a summer's day walk.—God help us! What will the King of the Sandwich and his sunny tinged consort think of the English—Why that we are a race of poodles'!

*Ginger Beer.*—This, when well made, is one of the most agreeable, as well as one of the most wholesome beverages that can be imagined. The subjoined recipe for producing it in high perfection may be found useful during the summer months:—"Take 1½ oz. of ginger, well bruised, 1 oz. of cream of tartar, and 1 lb. of white sugar; put these ingredients into an earthen vessel, and pour upon them a gallon of boiling water; when cold, add a table-spoonful of yeast, and let the whole stand till the next morning. Then skim it, bottle it, and keep it three days in a cool place before you drink. Be sure to use good sound corks, and secure them with twine or wire."

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### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SCEPTIC'S letter on D. Campbell, although reasonable, cannot be inserted. CATHARTIC'S charge, we think, has been refuted.

G. O. (aged 45) should follow the plan laid down, page 338, Vol. I. of the MEDICAL ADVISER.

A COUNTRYMAN.—There is a cure for warts in the MEDICAL ADVISER.

O. Z. should use warm baths at night, and keep the bowels regular.

R. H. M. is thanked.—We shall call.

W. T. R.'s letter shall be taken care of, but as the quacks are in arms against us, he would oblige us by leaving it awhile.

J. A.—Take an emetic, and then read page 338, MEDICAL ADVISER, which will suit his complaint.

A. Z.'s communications are thankfully received, but we must wait a little. Brodum shall catch it.

H. Z. will find a letter at the twopenny-post, Lombard-street.

ALL letters with addresses enclosed, were answered privately on Thursday.

A HEAP of letters lie over till next week.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 34.]

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1824.

[Price 3d.



AN OFFERING TO ESCULAPIUS.

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MR. M. HOLLAN'S OPINIONS  
ON SCROFULA.

*To the Editor of the Medical  
Adviser.*

MR. EDITOR,

IN your useful Publication I have recently seen some observations upon scrofula. There cannot be a subject of greater importance to a medical man than the consideration of this disease;—its frequent occurrence, added to the opinion generally prevailing, that it is inherent,—the dreadful ravages it effects on the constitution,—and the mysterious darkness that surrounds its cure, unite in rendering it an object of considerable interest,—permit me, with diffidence, to offer a few general observations on the disease.

Medical practitioners too frequently confine their treatment of scrofula to topical applications, and the internal administration of some nostrum by which they hope to remove the complaint entirely, or, at any rate, to diminish its extent. Now, Sir, experience has proved the fallacy of these systems (if I may so call them), when unaccompanied by a judicious plan of diet, dependant upon the habit of body, and a strict attention to the state of the digestive organs.

It is a fact, and well established too, that debility of the system, to a proportionate extent, accompanies the advance of the disease; whether the malady be dependant upon physical weakness, or *vice versa*, is not material.

The progress of scrofula is, however, frequently so rapid, the ravages so dreadful, that not all the art of medicine, nor the strictest attention, is capable of checking it. This, it is true, is only where the patient is of an irritable temperament; in which case the loss of general health is, as I have said before, commensurate with the extent of local injury, and death is the speedy termination.

In most scrofulous people there is an indolent, sluggard-like habit of body, the circulation is languid, and the whole system is so enervated, that its natural powers are of themselves insufficient to give a healthy action to any ulcer partaking of the strumous form. In this case, tone must be

given to the constitution by artificial means, and this can only be done by first attending to the state of the stomach and intestines, that is, by conveying to them energy sufficient to enable them to digest the food by a healthy process.

A disposition to costiveness is frequently to be contended with in this disease. Were it but a casual circumstance, its ill effects could easily be obviated; but as it is the grand stumbling-block between the practitioner and his success, it must form a subject of serious reflection, and the result be dependant, of course, upon the peculiarities of the case.

If the laxative medicines employed be too violent, the object for which they are used will be defeated or retarded; the debility we labour to remove will be increased by their operation; and we shall not only have to counteract their ill effects, but to regret, also the loss of time. Gentle laxatives are certainly preferable, and I know not any thing more useful, generally, than the following, for adults:—

R.

Magnes Sulph.

Pulv. Rhæi vel Jalapæ

Acquæ Cinnam.

Haustus omne alterne mani, vel omne mane si opus sit, sumendus.

This will be found an useful and simple remedy, comprising within itself the principles wanted, and free from useless ingredients. The evening before taking the draught it will be serviceable, and indeed it is essential to take some alterative medicine. The following formula will be found essentially useful:—

R.

Pilul. Hyd. Submur. Comp.

Antimonii Tart:

M.—Divide in pilula.

I do not mean to assert that these medicines must invariably be used; they may be altered or proportioned according to the peculiarities of the case. I have wished to point out the necessity of adopting a course of alterative and gently aperient medicines, as the only means of placing the gastric and bilious secretions in such a state that the food may be applied to the best advantage, and the topical applications to be used with a fair prospect of success.



We will suppose, then, that by the use of proper medicines, this desirable object has been effected; the next point of consideration is the diet. This should be nourishing and of easy digestion. Chicken broth, or beef soup made without vegetables, and cleared of all fat, or small quantities of lean mutton or beef, form the animal food most proper. Pork and veal, eggs and fish, are articles not only more difficultly digested, but the nutriment they contain is very small in proportion to the former. Fibrous vegetables, such as cabbage, turnips, carrots, &c. ought to be avoided; in the stomach they give forth a vast quantity of gas, distending that organ and the intestines, and keeping up an irritation alike hostile to the functions of digestion and to general health. Bread, potatoes, and other farinaceous vegetables, are the most proper, as they afford a moderate share of nutriment, and readily adapt themselves to the process; those of a pulpy nature, the orange, for instance, are certainly useful; but it will be advisable for the patient only to consume the juice, rejecting entirely the cells containing it, and the peel or rind. Gooseberries, strawberries, raspberries, &c. and most fruits of a saccharine description, may be taken in moderate quantities with considerable advantage. Beer, gingerbeer, and soda water, must be studiously avoided, they present disadvantages similar to those of fibrous vegetables. As a beverage, barley and fig water, slightly acidulated with the juice of the lemon, is gratifying and useful; or if a variety should be considered necessary, a small quantity of brandy, largely diluted, may be administered with good effect; or one or two glasses of Madeira, or other generous wine, in the course of a day, may be substituted.

Animal gelatine, as calf's-foot, or other light and simple preparations, are often useful. The stomach will not at all times retain more substantial food, and the jelly is nutritious and palatable.

High seasoning must be avoided. Pepper and spices may afford a temporary stimulus to the stomach, and the practitioner may be deceived by the apparent improvement of the

patient's health; but the effect soon ceases, and then it is considered necessary to resort again to the high seasoned food. This is frequently repeated until the stomach becomes callous to the operation of the stimulus, and debility of that organ, the precise object to be guarded against, necessarily results.

Nor is it essential to consider only the state of the digestive organs, and the nature of the food upon which the patient is to depend for his support. We should be doing very little were we to confine our attention to these points, important as they are. Nature has ordained that the balance of health shall be dependant on more causes than one; and constant experience has taught us, that nothing is more essential to the continuance of perfect health than a well-arranged plan of exercise; by which perspiration, one of the most serious functions of the animal economy, is properly promoted.

As, however, the greater number of scrofulous patients are of a delicate habit of body; due care must be used in apportioning the quantity of exercise. Sir Christopher Pegge has proved by experiment that active exercise, taken immediately after a hearty meal, prevents digestion. Hence the necessity is obvious of resting a time after eating. Gentle walking for two or three hours a day, in proportion to the state of health, provided the weather be fair, will not be found too much. Cold weather must however be guarded against, and the mind will be relieved by varying the scenery as much and as agreeably as possible. Music and lively conversation may be usefully employed; but dancing, or violent equestrian exercise, are injurious, for the excitation they produce is too great, and is succeeded by languor and lassitude, and consequently the constitution is thrown off the proper equilibrium. Drawing is an amusement too sedentary, and too solitary. The mind of a patient afflicted with such a dreadful malady as scrofula is ever prone to dwell on its misfortune; and nothing is a greater preventive to cure or mitigation than despondency or melancholy.



For this reason, therefore, tea and cards may be useful ; lively chit-chat accompanies the one, and there is an animating interest attached to the other.

Having, Sir, briefly considered the means of placing the stomach, &c. in a proper state of defence, and also the method of keeping them so, I will next offer a few short observations on topical remedies,—a subject certainly of some importance, but second to those already discussed.

The consideration of this branch of treatment I shall trouble you with on some future occasion. I fear I have already trespassed too much on your space ; but as we have only one object in view—general advantage, I trust that will plead my apology.

If, in your future Numbers, you can spare a corner, I shall be happy to forward to you a series of short articles on diseases of the skin, to which I have devoted some attention.

I am, Sir,

Your's faithfully,

MICH. M. HOLLAN.

17, Guilford-place, Spa-fields.

[We shall be happy to receive them.]

### RING-WORM.

THIS disease most frequently appears on the head, and is often caught by the use of combs, hats, or caps, which have been previously infected by the disease, but it sometimes is peculiar to the habit. It is more frequent in warm than in cold climates, and when arrived at great height is very difficult to cure.

Its first symptom is red pimples, which break out and discharge a thin acrid fluid. These pimples appear in circumscribed collections, and ultimately unite into one diseased surface. In some extreme cases the disease extends itself all over the body, and by its intolerable itching torments the unhappy patient continually.

Many things have been recommended for the cure of this disease ; there is scarcely a family without some particular way of treating it—mushroom catsup, tobacco water, decoction of buckthorn, a poultice of the flowers of ringworm-bush,

lime-juice, gunpowder and bear's grease, are a few of the remedies in use ; but we do not approve of any of them. A practice is also prevalent of shaving the head, even amongst the profession ; but this is wrong. The hair should be cut close but not shaved off, because the irritation caused by the razor increases the disease—the scissors will be found of more use than the razor. The following plan will cure any case of Ring-worm.

Let the hair be cut close ; then bathe the head with warm water in the morning, dry it then with a soft cloth, and with a bit of lint wet the spots with a lotion made of eight ounces of rose-water and two drachms of sulphate of zinc. This done cover the head with a cap, and in three hours after anoint the parts with diluted citron ointment ; when the cap should be again put on ; at night then repeat the ointment. Whenever the hair grows longer it should be cut ; this mode persisted in for a short time will succeed. It will be well when the spots are scurfy and dry to anoint the head with goose grease, between the applications of the citron ointment, say at four or five o'clock every day. There is no medicinal property whatever in what is termed bear's grease, except that of moistening the scurf, and goose grease will be found equally useful for that purpose.

### A PECULIAR HEAD-ACHE.

THERE is a species of this affection very prevalent in men of full habit of body when they are free livers, and which is most evident between the ages of forty-five and fifty, and more particularly when those men have met with troubles in life. The cure is not difficult, if a strict observance of rule be adopted. Let such men take five grains of blue pill at night, and in the morning half an ounce of Epsom salts. Let that day pass, and on the next, at twelve o'clock in the day, take two drachms of the tincture of senna, and one of the tincture of bark, which must be repeated every day.



or a week; when, if the head-ache should return, the blue pill must be again resorted to. This plan will cure.

## FRENCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Continued from page 54, Vol. II.)

### HOPITAL DES VENERIENS.

#### *The Lock Hospital.*

THE Venereal, or Lock Hospital, is the only one of those institutions, that I have visited at Paris, which appeared to me badly administered; that is to say, in not attending to the primary and most important objects; viz. a physiological inquiry into the disease of the patient, and sufficient opportunity for practical knowledge in the different cases, to the pupils, who attend the hospital, in pursuit of that essential branch of medical science.

This hospital contains about six hundred beds. Monsieur *Cullerier*, the head surgeon, and his nephew, reside on the establishment, and take charge of all the patients.

We attended during the chilly mornings of January, exactly at half past six, for the purpose of visiting the hospital, with the medical superintendents. As the male and female patients are inspected successively, we saw the male cases first; and in the short space of an hour, observed, that M. *Cullerier* examined two hundred and twenty-five patients, and prescribed for those who required it. We shall report a few particular cases, and content ourselves by making some general remarks upon them. We seldom met with students in the wards; there were scarcely any, excepting the internal pupils, who receive their regular appointments, and reside in the hospital. The first ward we entered, was crammed with seventy-two patients. The beds were so closely filed together, that the surgeon had hardly room enough to pass to the bed-side of the invalid.

The second ward of a similar dimension to the first, contained also the same number of beds; there were likewise four small wards, consisting of eight or ten beds, for pa-

tients who are affected by gonorrhœa combined with syphilis; and three lesser wards for the reception of those who present dangerous venereal symptoms.

With the exception of two or three patients, I did not observe that external use of mercurial ointment was applied; they mostly took some draught, such as *van swieten*, or a sudorific, or emollient mixture. The other medicines and regimen, were written down by one of the pupils, and delivered to the surgeon, who ordered them to be dispensed and attended to.

The emollient draught was given to those who had taken the other two medicines, containing the sublimate, which was suspended for a particular cause.

We observed only six cases of eruption among all the patients. We did not discover any bad affection of the nose, loss of the palate, or corrosive chancre; but, most of them had ulcers, in ano, in the perineum, and in the glands of the groin. They were all alike treated by corrosive sublimate.

M. *Cullerier* called our attention to a patient, who was completely cured of an ulcer in the throat, by the sublimate, and who continued to take the sudorific mixture.

We witnessed, also, another case, as extraordinary. A man was attacked by a disease which, in any other place, I should not have hesitated to call a cancerous affection of the tongue. This organ was swollen to a double size, and the upper surface of it was ulcerated six mouths. He was but a short time admitted into the hospital, when he commenced a course of corrosive sublimate, although nothing could lead us to imagine, that he ever had any primitive symptoms, or a constitutional syphilis.

The origin of the disease was undiscoverable, excepting the mere supposition, that the venereal virus had been directly applied to the particular part.

We have received the same polite attention from M. *Cullerier*, as from the other physicians, whose hospitals we have visited: but, the pres-



sure of his professional duties, did not afford him sufficient time for any detailed communication. We therefore found it so difficult to obtain the necessary information sought for, that we very seldom visited the male wards.

The practice of all the great hospitals, dedicated to a particular class of diseases, is subject to little variety; the surgeon is tired at seeing every day, a great number of similar cases, which possess little or no interest, he, therefore, runs through the wards, as he considers it a mere mechanical visit, where his science or judgment require not to be called into action.

We derived more satisfactory information from our visit to the female ward; superintended by the nephew of M. Cullerier, who dispatched his visits with equal expedition to his uncle, having examined *three hundred* patients in an hour and a half! Although this precipitate mode of visiting, may prevent a stranger from inquiring minutely into all cases, yet it is not really so extravagant as it appears at first sight, when we consider exclusive of the repeated diurnal visits, the similitude of the symptoms, the uniformity of the treatment, the promptitude and judgment with which the assistant surgeons write down, and execute their prescriptions; and finally, the subordination and good order, which reigns throughout the wards.

(To be Continued.)

### SYMPTOMATOLOGY.

*Abscess* forming in the legs, in diseases of the lungs, beneficial.

—— forming in the legs, in acute diseases, salutary.

—— distant from the primary seat of an acute disease, with signs of coction, good.

*Anxiety*, in acute diseases, frequent, and, if extreme, always dangerous.

—— with cold extremities, in fevers, bad.

—— great, in consequence of a wound, bad.

*Anxiety* frequently precedes a crisis in fevers.

*Aphthæ*, are pustules on the internal surface of the mouth and on the tongue, generally white in the centre, containing each a small ulcer beneath the cuticle: common to children at the breast.

—— a frequent symptom in the advanced stage of a consumption.

—— sometimes occur in inflammatory fevers, and, by neglect, prove troublesome and dangerous.

—— in malignant fevers, generally a fatal symptom.

—— frequently a symptom of inveterate scurvy.

*Appetite*, natural or habitual, returning in the decline of a fever, good.

—— for food increased, a symptom of Diabetes.

—— depraved, a symptom of Chlorosis.

—— for food, want of, a symptom of Cachexia.

—— for food, want of, with loathings, eructations, distention of the stomach, pain, and heart burn; Dyspepsia.

—— for food, want of, a constant symptom in acute diseases and salutary until after the crisis.

—— for food, want of, in chronic diseases, always a bad symptom.

—— for food, want of, in tedious dysenteries, bad.

*Belly*, below the navel, sore, painful, with pain in the forehead soon after delivery; symptoms of Puerperal Fever.

—— hot, with head, hands, and feet cold, in fevers, bad.

—— hot, with pain at the pit of the stomach, in fevers, bad.

—— lank and liquid to the feel, in any disease, bad.

—— tense, with constant lig pain, pulse weak and irregular aspect wild, livid colour round the lips, indicate internal gangrene, though no previous symptoms of inflammation may have been observed.

—— tense, painful, sub-elastic, soon in putrid fevers frequent, and often proceeds from elastic



generated by the putrid contents of the intestines.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 54.)

**HIP.** Urines very clear and white, are dangerous, especially from such as are in a phrensie.

**COOK.** Such urine shews the bilious matter is carried up into the head, whence a phrensie or madness; or else they signify very great crudities, which portend either death or a long disease; for nature requires a long time to concoct it; therefore if the fever be not very acute, and strength not wasted, the party may recover, although it be long first: but in a very acute disease, and where strength is decayed, they are always pernicious; especially if after the beginning of the disease, and continue long: if they continue, it is a certain sign of a relapse. In other diseases, as in intermitting fevers, or those gentle, or long; a thin urine denotes great obstructions of the milt, liver, mesentery, and other parts.

**HIP.** That urine which being thick, hath in it little pieces of flesh, as it were certain hairs, proceeds from the reins.

**COOK.** By thick urine, understand those well concocted; and then if the urine have such ill contents, the reins and bladder are only affected.

**HIP.** Those who void thick urines with a certain branny sediment, their bladder is scabbed.

**COOK.** What is said in the former aphorisms, may serve here.

**HIP.** They who suddenly piss blood, have a vein broken in their reins.

**COOK.** Namely, mere pure blood, without an outward cause.

**HIP.** They who make a sandy urine, have a stone in the bladder.

**COOK.** It must be with a clammy matter in the urine, which although it be shaken, sticks fast to the bottom of the pot, the bladder being ill-disposed by reason of the stone; if it stick not to the bottom, nor be mixed

with the gravel, it comes from some other part of the body.

If any piss blood, or clots of blood, and have the strangury, the pains in the lower part of the belly, the pecten or perinæum, the parts about the bladder are diseased.

**COOK.** By this you may know the bladder is affected.

**HIP.** If any piss filthy matter, or little scales, or withal the urine have a strong smell, it shews exulceration of the bladder.

**COOK.** They stink, because the heat there being weak, makes the matter putrid.

**HIP.** Making much urine in the night, signifies little stools.

**COOK.** This shews the benefit of derivation. So Galen delivered one from the flux of the womb, by moving the urine; so we move urine into much sweating: but the reason why there are the less fæces by stool, is by reason of the derivation of the matter, and the withdrawing the vehicle of the fæces; or the great heat of the liver sucks the humidity of the guts.

**HIP.** When the sediment of the urine resembles coarse meal, they signify a long sickness.

**COOK.** For they signify a fever caused by thick humours, which requires much time for concoction and edomation; only take this caution, if it be probable the patient may escape; for it is sometimes deadly, and by it many are snatched away. Hence you see that such contents signify either death, or continuance of the disease.

**HIP.** If any piss blood or filthy matter, it signifies ulcers of the reins and bladder.

**COOK.** The matter must not be equally mixed, and the blood must be with matter; for both matter and blood may be pissed from various causes.

**HIP.** Bilious sediments in urines, which at first were thin, signify an acute disease.

**COOK.** Or is thin above; for almost all diseases acute are from bile; when it swims in the middle region, it wants concoction, for concoction thickens.



**HIP.** Those which make divers urines, have a vehement disturbance in the body.

**COOK.** If it be now made thin and white, and then thick and tintured, it shews multiplicity of matter viciously diseased.

**HIP.** Little bubbles swimming upon the top of the urine, have an acute evil in the reins.

**COOK.** For they proceed from thick humours full of gross vapours, bred either in the reins, or sent from other parts.

**HIP.** Those who have fat swimming on the top of the urine, have an acute evil in the reins.

**COOK.** An acute evil is a hot distemper, which causes as it were little heaps of fat in the water, and then it is renal; if like cobwebs, it shews a consumption of fat through the whole body.

**HIP.** If the abovesaid tokens be in those that be sick in the reins, and withal have sore pain about the spinal muscles, and that outward, expect an outward abscess; but if it be more inward, expect it within.

**COOK.** If pain be long, much, and fixed, it may be an apostemation; if outward, use no repellers; if inward, you may.

#### OF THE FLUX OF THE BELLY.

**HIP.** In fluxes of the belly, the change of the excrements is good, unless they change for the worse.

**COOK.** This discovers whether the crisis be perfect or imperfect, and that crisis is by excretion, which is meant of all. The change signifies the strength of nature.

**HIP.** When the upper parts of the gullet are sore, or a breaking out of wheals arises in the body, it behoves us to look upon the excrements; for if they be bilious, the body is also sick; but if like those in sound persons, the body may be cherished without hazard.

**COOK.** Here he speaks of the crisis by abscess. All acute diseases are judged by excretion, unless either the matter be contumacious, or from infirmity of nature, or the straitness of the

passages, that excretion may convert itself into an abscess; for if there flow not sufficient by bleeding at the nose, there come parotides.

**HIP.** They which in youth have a loose and moist belly, in old age have it dry, and so contrary.

**COOK.** Here he shews why acute diseases are not certain as to predictions, to wit, from the various conditions of the body; they are loose from bile, and bound in age from phlegm mitigating it, &c.

**HIP.** Black fæces of the belly like to black blood coming forth of their own accord, either with or without a fever, are most ill; and by how much the more the colours are ill, by so much the worse the fæces are: but such things expelled out by medicine, are far better, and then by how much the more colours there be.

**COOK.** Here he speaks of symptomatical purging, which happens not from strength, but the resolution of the faculty.

**HIP.** Those that have moist bellies, pass their youthful age more easily, than those which have the same dry; but they pass their old age more hardly and with more difficulty, for when they wax old, for the most part it is dry.

**COOK.** This seems to be an exposition of the twentieth aphorism immediately before.

**HIP.** In the beginning of any disease, if black bile be voided upwards or downwards, it is deadly.

**COOK.** It is deadly both as a sign and a cause; for no excretion in the cradle of a disease can be healthful, and the evacuation of any humour is bad before signs of concoction.

**HIP.** Those extenuated by acute or long diseases, or by wounds, or by any other means, if they avoid black bile, or as it were black blood by stool, die the day following.

**COOK.** Extenuation signifies great debility, such dejection denotes a great disease, which speedily destroys the sick, the sick being infirm.



HIP. If blood be conveyed upwards, whatever it be, it is bad ; but if black blood be voided downwards, it is good.

COOK. That is, if they persevere and oft repeat vomiting blood, it is bad, because it proceeds from some veins opened, broken or eroded either in the ventricle or liver ; the other is good if there be necessity of such faces, or from a leg cut off, or any other member.

HIP. Those who in fevers have lost much blood at any part, when they mend, their bellies will be loose.

COOK. Natural heat being debilitated by bleeding, can neither so well concoct, sanguify nor distribute the aliment, and therefore it is fit they should be loose until nature recover herself or strength.

ED. These aphorisms are, generally speaking, founded on sound principles, therefore, we withhold particular comments.

## THE HEALTH OF WINE.

*Those who drink wine, &c. for the purpose it was given, as a cordial, to cheer the circulation, when it falters from fatigue, age, or profuse evacuations of any kind, "for the stomach's sake," as St. Paul recommends it, and for our "often infirmities" as a medicine—will understand, that of all the ways of saving, to run any risk of buying inferior wine, is the most ridiculously unwise economy.*

"Pure Port is preferable to all the stomachics that all the sons of Esculapius can administer. I wish I could say any thing for the mended or made wines which are often sold for it to ignorant and parsimonious purchasers,—it is more than probable, that for every shilling they save in wine, they pay a pound to their doctors and apothecaries!!"—Dr. Wright on Port wine, p. 20.

To ice wine is another very unprofitable and inconvenient custom—and not only deteriorates its fla-

vour, but by rendering it dull in the mouth—people are induced to drink too much, as they are deprived of the advantage of knowing when they have got enough—for as soon as the wine becomes warm in their stomachs,—the dose they have taken merely to exhilarate them—makes them drunk.

The true economy of drinking, is to excite as much exhilaration as may be, with as little wine.

We deprecate the custom of sitting for hours after dinner, and keeping the stomach in an incessant state of irritation by sipping wine, nothing can be more prejudicial to digestion—it is much better to mix food and drink, and to take them by alternate mouthfuls.

Our "Vinum Britannicum"—good *home-brewed* beer—which has been very deservedly called "liquid bread," is preferable to any other beverage during dinner or supper, or port or sherry diluted with about three or four times their quantity of toast and water—undiluted, these wines are too strong to be drank during dinner; they act so powerfully on the feelings of the stomach, that they dull the desire for solid food, by producing the sensation of restoration, and the system, instead of receiving material to repair and strengthen it, is merely stimulated during the action of the vinous spirit.

However, the dull stimulus of distention, is insufficient for some delicate stomachs, which do absolutely require to be screwed up with a certain quantity of diffusible stimulus, without which, they cannot proceed effectively to the business of digestion, or indeed any other business—we do not recommend such, especially if they have passed the meridian of life, to attempt to entirely wean themselves of it, but advise them, immediately after dinner, to drink as much as is necessary to excite that degree of action in their system, without which they are uncomfortable, and then to stop.—See observations on Sicsta.



Now-a-days, babies are brought to table after dinner by children of larger growth, to drink wine, which has as bad an effect on their tender susceptible stomachs, as the like quantity of alcohol would produce upon an adult.

Wine has been called "the milk of old age," so "milk is the wine of youth." As Dr. Johnson observed, it is much easier to be abstinent than to be temperate; and no man should habitually take wine as food, till he is past thirty years of age at least;—happy is he who preserves this best of cordials in reserve, and only takes it to support his mind and heart when distressed by anxiety and fatigue. That which may be a needful stimulus at forty or fifty, will inflame the passions into madness at twenty or thirty, and at an earlier period is absolute poison.

Among other innumerable advantages which the water-drinker enjoys, remember he saves at least, fifty guineas per annum, which the beer and wine drinker wastes, as much to the detriment of his health, as the diminution of his finances: moreover, nothing deteriorates the sense of taste so soon as strong liquors; the water-drinker enjoys an exquisite sensibility of palate, and relish for plain food, that a wine-drinker has no idea of.

Some people make it a rule to drink a certain number of glasses of wine during and after dinner, whether they are dry, or languid or not; this is as ridiculous as it would be to eat a certain number of mutton chops whether you are hungry or not. The effect produced by wine is seldom the same, even in the same person, and depends on the state of the animal spirits at the time, whether the stomach be full, or empty, &c.

The more simply life is supported, and the less stimulus we use, the better; and happy are the young and healthy, who are wise enough to be convinced that water is the best drink, and salt the best sauce.

But in invalids past the meridian of life, we believe as much mischief

is going on when our pulse hobbles along, as if the heart was too tired to carry on the circulation, as can possibly be done to the constitution by taking such a portion of wine as will remove the collapse, and excite the main spring of life to vibrate with healthful vigour.

The following is the Editor's plan of taking liquid food at dinner:—when he cannot get good beer, he has two wine-glasses of sherry, or one of whiskey, or brandy, and three-fourths of a pint of good toast and water (which when dyspeptic he has warmed to about summer heat, *i. e.* 75 of Fahrenheit,) and puts a wine glass of sherry, or half a glass of whiskey, &c. into half a pint of the water, and the other glass of sherry, or half glass of whiskey, &c. into the remaining quarter of a pint; thus increasing the strength of the liquid towards the conclusion of dinner, after which he drinks from two to four glasses of port or sherry, as instinct suggests the state of the circulation requires; if it be very languid, a quarter of an hour after dinner, lie down on a sofa, and sleep for about half an hour: you will find half an hour's horizontal posture more restorative than if you sat up and drank three or four more glasses of wine.

As to the wholesomeness of various wines, that depends on the integrity and skill of the wine-maker, and upon the peculiar state of the stomach of the wine-drinker; when my stomach is not in good temper, it generally desires to have red wine, but when in best health, nothing affronts it more than to put port into it, and one of the first symptoms of its coming into adjustment, is a wish for white wine.

One of the chief causes of that derangement of the stomach, which delicate and aged persons so constantly complain of after *Dining out*—is the drinking of Wines, &c. which they are unused to.

*White*, deserve to be preferred to *Red Wines*,—because the latter being harder pressed, and subjected to a stronger fermentation to extract the



colouring matter from the husks of the grape, are more loaded with feculence.

Of RED WINES, *Claret* is the best; and it is to be lamented, that the duty imposed upon it is so great, that to moderate fortunes it amounts to a prohibition—when we make this observation, we do not mean to impeach the prudence which has induced those who no doubt best understand the subject,—to determine that political necessity imperatively decrees that the delightful and salubrious wines of France—must be taxed twice as high as the coarse unwholesome wines of Portugal.

Of the *White Wines*, we believe that *Sherry* is the most easy—and *Madeira* the most difficult to obtain genuine—most of the sweet Wines are as artificially compounded, as the Beers of this country; the addition of Capillaire to Port Wine, makes what is commonly called *Tent. Mountain, Calcavella, &c.* are made up in the same manner.

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#### ADULTERATION OF LEMON ACIDS.

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It is well known to every one, that the expressed juice of lemons is extremely apt to spoil, on account of the saccharine mucilaginous matter which it contains; and hence various means have been practised, with the intention of rendering it less perishable, and less bulky. The juice has been evaporated to the consistence of rob: but this always gives an unpleasant empyreumatic taste, and does not separate the foreign matters, so that it is still apt to spoil when agitated on board of ship in tropical climates. It has been exposed to frost, and part of the water removed under the form of ice; but this is liable to all the former objections: and, besides, where lemons are produced in sufficient quantity, there is not a sufficient degree of cold. The addition of a portion of spirit to the inspissated juice, separates the mucilage, but not the extractive matter

and the sugar. By means, however, of separating the foreign matters associated with it in the juice by chemical processes unnecessary to be detailed here, citric acid is now manufactured, perfectly pure, and in a crystallised form, and is sold under the name of concrete lemon acid. In this state it is extremely convenient, both for domestic and medicinal purposes. One drachm, when dissolved in one ounce of water, is as acid as a like bulk of fresh lemon juice. To communicate the flavour of the lemon, rub a lump of sugar on the rhind of a lemon, to become impregnated with a portion of the essential oil of the fruit, and add this to the lemonade, negus, punch, shrub, jellies, or culinary sauces, prepared with the pure citric acid.

Fraudulent dealers often substitute the cheaper tartareous acid, or citric acid. The negus and lemonade made by the pastry-cooks, and the punch sold at taverns in this metropolis, is made with tartareous acid.

To discriminate citric acid from tartareous acid, it is only necessary to add a concentrated solution of the suspected acid, to a concentrated solution of muriate of potash, taking care that the solution of the acid is in excess. If a precipitate ensue, the fraud is obvious, because citric acid does not produce a precipitate with a solution of muriate or potash. Or, by adding to a saturated solution of tartrate of potash, a saturated solution of the suspected acid, in excess, which produces with it an almost insoluble precipitate in minute granular crystals. Pure citric acid, produces no such effect when added in excess to tartrate of potash.

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#### POISONOUS OLIVE OIL.

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THIS commodity is sometimes contaminated with lead, because the fruit which yields the oil is submitted to the action of the press between leaden plates; and it is moreover, a practice (particularly in Spain) to suffer the oil to become clear in leaden cisterns, before it is brought to market for sale.



The French and Italian olive oil is usually free from this impregnation.

Olive oil is sometimes mixed with oil of poppy seeds: but, by exposing the mixture to the freezing temperature, the olive oil freezes, while that of the poppy seeds remains fluid; and as oils which freeze with most difficulty are most apt to become rancid, olive oil is deteriorated by the mixture of poppy oil.

Good olive oil should have a pale yellow colour, somewhat inclining to green; a bland taste, without smell; and should congeal at 38° Fahrenheit. In this country it is frequently met with rancid.

The presence of lead is detected by shaking, in a stopped vial, one part of the suspected oil, with two or three parts of water, impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen. This agent will render the oil of a dark brown or black colour, if any metal, deleterious to health, be present. The practice of keeping this oil in pewter or leaden cisterns, as is often the case, is objectionable; because the oil acts upon the metal. The dealers in this commodity assert, that it prevents the oil from becoming rancid: and hence some retailers often suffer a pewter measure to remain immersed in the oil.

#### DON'T BE FRIGHTENED.

*Something consoling* is going the round of the papers about the dreadful intermixture of alum in bread. We entreat our readers not to be in too much alarm on the subject. It is quite true that those bakers who employ flour of an inferior quality do usually add as much alum as common salt to the dough; that is to say, the quantity of salt usually added to the dough, when the flour is of a good quality, is diminished one half, and the deficiency supplied by an equal weight of alum. This substitution of alum is considered to be injurious to the health, inasmuch as it is calculated to produce constipation. But after all, if we consider how small the quantity added by the baker is, being seldom so much as six grains to a quartern loaf, it can scarcely be view-

ed in this light as any serious evil. Suppose an individual to eat the seventh part of a quartern loaf a-day, he would only swallow eight tenths of a grain of alum. It is not to be supposed that so small a quantity could occasion constipation.—*This is a correct view of the case.*

#### CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

By inserting the following, you will oblige your correspondent and subscriber,

T. N.

#### *On the Folly of Consulting Ignorant Dabblers in Physic.*

WELL may it be said that credulity is the offspring of much evil; it is the means by which designing persons accomplish their objects. When they are aware their pretensions are not competent, they first attempt to raise a belief in their capacity ere they try to execute. Thus the affectation of importance, the pomposity of learning, the parade of attire, the ostentatious display of wealth, and the unwarranted assumption of wisdom, how often has it misled the unwary to their ruin, particularly in an age like this, where appearance has almost the ascendancy of reality? Those whose object is deception, who seek by unfair and underhand measures to profit by the ignorant and unhesitating belief of the multitude, find their task easy by practising on their credulity. Whatever be their design, be it the acquisition of wealth, the pursuits of literature, the arts, or the professions, such illiterate pretenders, not having the previous necessary qualifications, endeavour to hide their want of knowledge by practising on the credulity of the vulgar, by asserting they possess the necessary qualifications with so much dogmatism and unhesitating presumption, that they are brought to believe their capability, and stand with awe before such august personages. Then are they most assuredly on the very brink of ruin; for



the men on whom they thus rely for the restoration of their health or their fortunes, are like vampires, which suck, as it were, their blood, and injure, without the least pity or emotion, their weak confiding dupes. Such a system is the continued practice of the quacks, whom of late your valuable Miscellany hath held up to the public in their proper forms, as men the most ignorant, most deceptive and iniquitous, and who, by their very ignorance, do more harm than doth a raging pestilence; but the object here is not to offer remarks on such a contemptible race, which your work hath so amply done, but to caution the unwary against giving heed to those whom we may call private dabblers in physic; who, fond of being thought expert in the removal of disorders, have got a smattering in the art by casual and light reading, flatter themselves capable of bestowing advice. Who, possessing any reason or common sense would entrust their lives in the hands of such persons? How, let me ask them, can they suppose a person who probably is immersed in business or perhaps following some other profession, have that leisure and those means by which they may acquire a sufficient progress in an art which requires many years of uninterrupted study, much practice, and long habitual attention, ere they can acquire the knowledge necessary for a successful dispensation of the art. It is through thoughtlessness many are misled—they consider not, and are led away by appearances; nor enquire sufficiently into the characters of those on whom they rely. Who, that considers at all, but must be aware that it requires a perfect knowledge of the system, an anatomical acquaintance with every muscle, bone, and fibre of the body? The probable influence of climate, the prevailing habit of body in connexion with their pursuits in life; a critical and observing eye, which distinguishes symptom from symptom; for particularly on this point may uneducated and unpractised persons be often egregiously deceived, and mistake a symptom incident in one disease, for

another which puts on its appearance? And these are necessary qualifications, which nothing but a long and unwearied practical attention can acquire; how then so many give heed and follow the advice of merely doctors for amusement, is truly unaccountable, unless, as before observed, by a thoughtless belief in their capacity.

That these remarks may have their beneficial results, is sincerely hoped, and lead the unfortunate latitudinist to seek the advice of those, who, by education and successful practice, have acquired the necessary knowledge: thus may their lives be spared, their health restored, and long enjoy the blessings of vigour of body, hilarity of soul, through which alone they can enjoy the blessings of existence.

T. N.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.

#### *Eady's Escape from St. Luke's!*

THIS fellow is once more loose upon the public! He was discharged convalescent on last Monday, but we are compelled to state, that his malady has returned, and he has taken up his old system. Mental aberration we have always looked upon with pity; but in the unfortunate Dr. Eady's case, our duty compels us to speak openly, because the public are likely to become victims to him. We are now in the dog-days, and we think that a muzzle could not be better or more usefully applied than in preventing this maniac from doing mischief. As a proof of his unhappy situation, the following *hand-bill* and *advertisement*, just hot from the press, are presented to our readers.



## THE HAND-BILL.

“*New London Bridge.*”

“A theme now on the carpet in numerous assemblies! The form, the size, the architect, the time of erection, and how long it will take to build, together with the expence, some have heard, others imagine, but most persons *know* that Dr. EADY effectually cures the venereal disease; but, as it is possible others have not been put in possession of that fact, they are hereby informed he is consulted daily on all disorders where privacy is necessary, at 38, Dean-street, Soho.

“*Female complaints treated successfully.*”

“Eruptions, pain in the limbs, obstinate gleet, dimness of sight, nodes on the shin-bones, ulceration, and sore throats, are among the symptoms arising out of improper treatment, and which without timely assistance, prove fatal.

“38, Dean-street, Soho, is not a shop, but a private house. One end of Dean-street leads into Gerrard-street, nearly opposite the general two-penny post-office, and the other into Oxford-street.

“N. B. Advice gratis to the poor.”

## HIS ADVERTISEMENT

*In the County Newspapers.*

“Dr. Eady’s much envied but increasing popularity, is clearly evinced by the malignant rage of his professional contemporaries, who have had the effrontery to assert publicly, that he is every thing despicable, mean, and contemptible, (like themselves) except “that he is more rogue than madman.” *I suppose they mean fool.* The truth of which statements may easily be conceived by the following assertions:—“Dr. Eady.—This fellow is in the Bench; we had been informed that his retirement was in St. Luke’s; we are now convinced he is more rogue than madman.”\*

It is evident Dr. Eady’s professional enemies are not only apprehensive, but positively convinced, that unless they can (no matter whether by falsehood or otherwise) defame his character, injure his reputation, and draw a

veil over his professional merits, not only ‘the Bench’ will be their portion, but ‘St. Luke’s’ also; that that which they have stated, they understood (*and doubtless hoped too*) was his asylum, will turn out to be their own, ‘although they be neither rogues nor fools.’

“Dr. Eady not only receives daily proofs of the displeasure of his professional enemies, on account of his well-known success, but continual testimonials also of the same, from patients whose veracity is not to be questioned; and thus the true proverb is fulfilled, which says, ‘Let envy alone, and it will punish itself.’

“Dr. Eady is consulted daily at his house, 38, Dean-street, Soho, from six in the morning till eleven at night. The following case, amongst thousands more, will manifest the efficacy of Dr. Eady’s mode of treatment.”—

Then follows a humbug case.—

The cause of Eady’s derangement has been the loss of the late action at law so generally known to the public. The effect of the defeat was his confinement in the King’s Bench prison, which, together with the exposé of his haberdashery character brought out in evidence, operated powerfully upon his mind, and produced mental derangement. This occasioned his friends to place him in the hospital of St. Luke’s, where he remained for six weeks; and, through the effects of low living and due medical attention, he was apparently restored, and discharged. But this convalescence did not last long: he assumed a silent and solemn deportment, scarcely speaking to his relations or domestics, which was not supposed to be the effect of insanity, and passed unheeded by his friends; however, the malady manifested itself on last Wednesday to the fullest extent, in the following manner:—

An old lady went to consult him, (Mrs. Woods of Lisle-street) and having received his prescription and medicine, incautiously mentioned that she acted according to the directions of a prescription laid down in the “MEDICAL ADVISER,” which, she said, did her some service. On the mention of the words “MEDICAL AD-

\* Extract from the “Medical Adviser.”



VISER," EADY frothed at the mouth, stamped, stared, and used sundry contortions of the body, which gave "dreadful note of preparation" to the venerable Mrs. Woods, who now stood aghast! He ran at her with all the fury of a "cubless tigress," and seizing the lady, would have sacrificed her upon the spot, had not his friends and the passengers interfered. Eady was then locked up, and it was two days before he recovered his gravity of deportment. His friends, however, believe that he is now negatively restored, and permit him to go at large. He has not since shewn signs of rage, but employs himself in writing and printing strangely worded hand-bills. We think his malady at present is atrabilious.

#### *Further Particulars.*

We stop the press to state, that Eady yesterday called upon — of —, to consult him, *them, or it*, on the construction of a new quack-bill. Here he found Dr. —, Dr. —, and Mr. —, in previous conference with —. Being all professional gentlemen, the matter was immediately discussed; the "*New London Bridge Bill*," above quoted, was finally agreed upon, with this reserve, that Mr. — should have the privilege of affixing his own name to the second edition, and thus continue it to the *twenty-first*, so as to carry with it an equal degree of *popularity* and *respectability* with his "*ÆGIS OF LIFE*." All went on smoothly, until, (as in the case of Mrs. Woods) Dr. —, Dr. —, and Mr. —, all in one breath, unhappily mentioned the "*libels*" in the MEDICAL ADVISER. Eady immediately, as before, became outrageous,—sprung upon B——, fastened his canine dentals upon the Doctor's deltoid muscle, where he continued to keep his hold, in spite of the united exertions of F—— and G——, to detach him from the German gentleman.

All was uproar! What was to be

done?—a moment lost and all were bitten! F—— was prompt,—his right fist flew into the "lug" of the mordacious Doctor, and paralysed his maxillaries; down he fell—senseless—powerless—frothing.—Dr. —, who is a rising young man, and always has his eye to the *monish*, led off B—— from the field, like the good Samaritan (with this little difference from the simile, that *he expected to be paid for his philanthropy*) for the purpose of dressing his wounds. C—— was now left alone with the *patient*, Eady. Although Mr. C—— is a man of strong nerves, and the professed corrector of "*nervous debility*," he gave evident signs of anxiety on finding himself left alone with Eady. Horror became the climax of his feelings, for the patient recovered his physical powers, and with them his rage. The door was shut!—at him he ran—down fell C——, Eady on top, his canine teeth firmly in-vised in the glutei muscles of the prostrate Doctor. Roar follows roar—Tom! John! Kitty! William! Sally! Betty! Jane!—What a critical situation for a *respectable surgeon* and a *member of the College*! He must be released—he was; but how? Two of Mr. —'s patients who happened to be in the anti-room, hearing the noise, burst in the door, and by the effect of united and repeated thumps succeeded in detaching the prostrate pair from each other. Eady was instantly secured, and tied up; and C—— dreading the loss of blood, hastened to find the philanthropic F——. But had he waited for that gentleman to stop the hemorrhage, he might have bled to death, for both he and B——, on hearing the second attack, ran off; he therefore was obliged to apply to his partners.

#### *Latest Intelligence.*

We lament to state, that since the late *bite*, Mr. — has shewn symptoms of Dr. Eady's disease.





### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Mr. O'Callaghan.*—A long debate has taken place at the Surrey Sessions upon the food, air, and exercise allowed this gentleman during his confinement, which tended powerfully to establish, in the public mind, a confirmation of the unjustifiable rigour which was practised upon him. Mr. Holme Sumner, as usual, stood up, not coolly and magisterially to justify the conduct of his brethren, but to cast an imputation upon Mr. O'C. as mean as it was impotent. When it was stated that Mr. O'C. was

of the theatrical profession, Mr. *Worthy H. Sumner* suddenly interrupted, and said, "*player*" you mean, *player, player!*" He was, however, put down, as he usually is, by one of the magistrates applying the appellation "*player*" to the venerated names of *Garrick* and *Kemble*. When public bodies have such men as Sumner to defend them, they must get into disgrace. He is a silly fellow.

*Death of the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands.*—The wet weather, was, in all probability, the cause of this royal couples' death; the damp atmosphere acting upon the lungs, already predisposed to inflammation by the change of temperature, exerted a strong degree of action in the blood vessels, and nothing but copious bleeding and blisters, could have saved their lives; but while the dampness of the atmosphere continued, no medical treatment could avail.

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### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*J. B. C. of Upminster,* should take a table-spoonful of the decoction of bark, acidulated with sulphuric acid, every morning; and in the middle of the day, two drachms of the tincture of senna, with one of the tincture of cardomoms—warm bath, also, once a week. We should be glad to hear from him in a fortnight.

*GUST. AD. B—R,* should continue his present plan, as he has found relief—his disease we trust will soon yield. Let him take in addition to his other medicines, two drachms of tincture of bark, in a bottle of soda-water, every day for awhile. We would have written to Edinburgh, but, the letter might not have reached him, as we could not keep to time.

*MARY Z. Z. Z.* should send an address, and she will have advice.

*R. T. G. H.* should continue his medicines.—We are glad to find him better.

*C. M. C.*—Take one grain of opium at night, when the tooth-ache comes on—there is a topical application in the "*MEDICAL ADVISER.*"

*H. R.*—Hydrophobia shall be treated on, perhaps, in next Number.

*C. D.* takes too large a dose—it should be so proportioned as to procure only one motion daily.

*AN OBSERVER* is informed, that we still are ready.

*ELIZA L.* should continue her medicine—she sleeps too much—we shall be glad to hear from her as soon as convenient.

*OPIUM EATER* should eat no more.

*A. L. M.* may now consider himself well.

*A DRUGGIST.*—We mean to write upon the subject.

*BATHER* shall soon have our opinion on salt-water bathing.

Many favours have come to hand.

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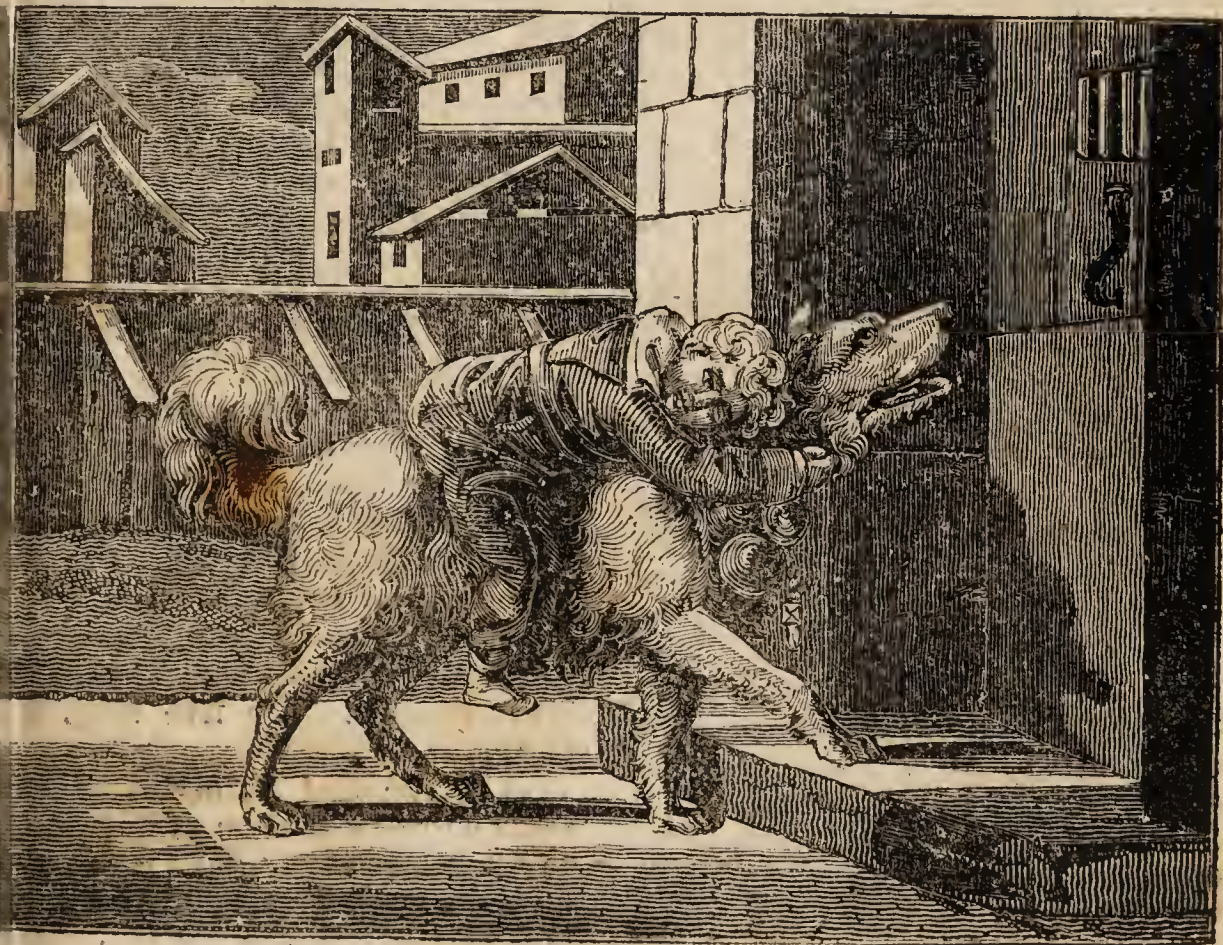
# THE MEDICAL ADVISER, AND GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 35.]

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



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## EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

In the Alps, the humane inhabitants have dogs of a large size trained to search for those unhappy travellers which may have fallen into the snow, and are unable to extricate themselves. These dogs go out alone, with a bottle of brandy, or other cordial, tied around their neck, and prowl about in search of the

helpless traveller, and when they find him, they shew the most lively signs of anxiety to relieve him ; to use the words of an enlightened critic, they speak by motion. Our Plate of this Number represents a child on the back of one of these dogs, just returned from his hospitable duty, and entering the equally



hospitable mansion. It is a remarkable fact, that these dogs have been known, when they found travellers insensible, to open their mouths with theirs, and breathe into them, until the heat thus communicated had the effect of restoring animation. We shall shortly give an article on resuscitation.

### RULES FOR BATHING.

**DON'T** go into the water while in a heat.

If you bathe for health, merely immerse yourself in the water, and then come out.

Dry-rub yourself with a coarse towel, so as to circulate the blood on the surface of the body.

Dry your hair well.

Don't exercise after such bathing; but if you have incautiously staid in so long as to make you chilly, then take a little brandy, and walk smartly.

If you merely immerse yourself, you may go into the water at any time of the day. We think the heat of the day the *best time* for bathing. The contrary is laid down almost universally, but we oppose it, on this principle, that in the heat of summer the body *requires its temperature lowered*; after such bathing, however, it would be well to either sit in the shade or lay down upon the bed. In very hot weather, we think an immersion immediately before bed-time good, as you will sleep cooler and better; but then the hair, if wet, must be well dried.

Salt water is better than fresh; however, fresh is better than none.

Don't remain long stripped before bathing.

### FOOD.

**AMONG** those subjects which immediately relate to health, there is no one more important, or less regarded by individuals, than their aliment. It is a mistaken notion, that one person requires an animal diet, and another, whose avocation and habits are different, a vegetable regimen; many of the diseases ori-

ginating in dyspepsia,\* the great endemic of the northern states, are induced by a habit of living too exclusively upon a few articles of food, most of which are animal. Nature intended that man should subsist upon the variety of bounties with which she has so liberally replenished the earth, and constituted his system in a manner suitable to partake, almost indiscriminately, of whatever is agreeable to his palate; and the injurious effects of many articles of diet are to be attributed, not so much to their peculiar nature, as to the refinements of cookery. Although the roast beef of England has become the magnum bonum of a good dinner, in this country, the too great freedom and frequency with which it is used already begins to affect the constitutions of the opulent, by those peculiar disorders which have been entailed on the descendants of the high-bred families of Great Britain. The gout was once a stranger in New England, but the luxury of modern days is preparing the way for a train of constitutional irregularities, which future generations can only regret, while they suffer its inflictions. To live long, live simply.

It is true that animal food contains a greater portion of nutriment, in a given quantity, than vegetables, and in a proper state of preparation, it is almost adapted for the immediate action of the absorbents of the chylo-poetic viscera; but the digestive functions of the human system become prematurely exhausted by constant action, and the whole system eventually sinks under great or uninterrupted excitement. If plain animal food were taken but once a day, and men would substitute for the various ragouts, with which modern tables are so abundantly furnished, wholesome vegetables and pure water, or a weak fermented beverage, for the more deleterious potations of distilled liquors, we should see health walking in the paths that are now crowded with the bloated victims of vo-

\* One of the most clear cases of this kind, is in an early Number of the "Medical Adviser."



luptuous appetite. Millions of Gentoos have lived to an advanced age, without having tasted of any thing that ever possessed life, and been wholly free from a chain of maladies, which have scourged every civilized nation on the globe; the wandering Arabs, who have traversed the barren deserts of Sahara, subsisting on the scanty pittance of milk from the half-famished camel that carried them, have seen two hundred years roll round without a day of sickness.

The temperature of our food is an exceedingly important consideration. We are accustomed to take it too warm, forgetful of the fact, that artificial heat destroys the muscular tone of the stomach, vitiates its secretions and its physical powers, and induces painful and dangerous diseases of the liver. Let us take, then, another hint from the children of nature, who subsist on aliment of a temperature no higher than that of their own bodies, and who are generally hardy and long-lived, until the simplicity of their habits is intercepted by the adoption of the vices brought among them by the civilised invaders of their native forests.

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## THE ART OF INVIGORATING AND PROLONGING LIFE.

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THE following is a brief sketch of the usual method of training persons for Athletic Exercises, which has received the perfect approbation of Mr. J. Jackson, the well known teacher of sparring, and that of several professors and experienced amateurs.

The alimentary canal is cleansed by an emetic, and then two or three purgatives.

They are directed to eat beef and mutton—rather *under*, than *over*-done, and without either seasoning or sauce—*broils* are preferred to either *roasts* or *boils*,—and stale bread or biscuit.

Neither veal, lamb, pork, fish, milk, butter, cheese, puddings, pastry, or vegetables are allowed.

Beef and mutton only (fresh, not salted) are ordered; but we believe

this restriction is seldom entirely submitted to.

Nothing tends more to renovate the constitution, than a temporary retirement to the country.

The necessity of breathing a pure air, and the strictest temperance, are uniformly and absolutely insisted upon by all trainers; the striking advantages resulting therefrom, we have heard as universally acknowledged by those who have been trained.

*Mild home-brewed ale* is recommended for drink, about three pints per day, taken with breakfast and dinner, and a little at supper, not in large draughts, but by mouthfuls, alternately with your food.

*Stale beer* often disturbs delicate bowels—if your palate warns you that malt liquor is inclined to be hard, neutralize it with a little *carbonate of potash*; that good sound beer, which is neither nauseous from its newness, nor noxious from its staleness, is in unison with the animating diet of animal food, which we are recommending as the most effective antidote to debility, &c. experience has sufficiently proved.—There can be no doubt, that the combination of the tonic power of the hop, and the nourishment of the malt is much more invigorating than any simple vinous spirit, but the difficulty of obtaining it good, ready brewed, and the trouble of brewing is so great, that happy are they who are contented with good toast and water as a diluent to solid food, and a few glasses of wine as a finishing “*bonne bouche*.”

Those who do not like beer—are allowed wine and water—red wine is preferred to white, and *not more* than half a pint, (i. e. eight ounces), or four common sized wine glasses, after dinner—none after supper—nor any spirits, however diluted.

Eight hours *Sleep* are necessary—but this is generally left to the previous habits of the person; those who take active exercise require adequate rest.

Breakfast upon meat at eight o'clock—Dinner at two—supper is not advised, but they may have a little bit of cold meat about eight o'clock, and take a walk after, between that time and ten, when they go to bed.



*The time requisite to screw a man up to his fullest strength*, depends upon his previous habits and age. In the vigour of life, between 20 and 35; a month or two is generally sufficient:—more or less, according as he is older, and as his previous habits have been in opposition to the above system.

The first, *the period of preparation* from our birth, till about our 21st year, when the body has generally attained the *acmé* of expansion:—till then, a continual and copious supply of Chyle is necessary, not only to keep our machinery in repair, but to furnish material for the increase of it.

The second, from 21 to 42, *the period of active usefulness*; during which, nothing more is wanted, than to restore the daily waste, occasioned by the actions of the vital and animal functions.

“The shooting tubes  
Drink all the blood the toiling heart  
could pour,  
Insatiate; when full grown, they crave no  
more  
Than what repairs their daily waste.”

ARMSTRONG.

The third, *the period of decline*; this comes on and proceeds with more or less celerity, according to the original strength of the constitution, and the economy with which it has been managed during the second period. (Age is a relative term,—one man is as old at 40 as another is at 60): but after 42, the most vigorous become gradually more passive—and after 63, pretty nearly quite so.

The teeth are renewed at the 7th year.

Puberty arrives at twice seven—14.

Full stature at three times seven—21.

The vigour of growth at four times seven—28.

The greatest vigour of body and mind at five times seven—35.

The commencement of decay at six times seven—42.

General decay, and decrease of energy, at seven times seven—49.

Old age at eight times seven—56.

And the grand climacteric of the ancients at nine times seven—63.

## FRENCH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

(Continued from p. 70, Vol. II.)

### HOPITAL DES VENERIENS.

#### *Lock Hospital.*

THE patients were all in bed during our visits. Those who were affected by chancres, buboes, eruptions or ulcers in the throat, never employed mercurial ointment by friction, but all (with the exception of those who were approaching to a state of convalescence, and in whose case the use of mercury was altogether suspended) swallowed their *sudorific draught*, or the solution of *corrosive sublimate*.

Notwithstanding the great number of patients, there was but a small proportion of secondary cases, and three or four cases of eruptions, one of which covered the whole face of the female patient affected by it, and also her arms and hands; her complexion was copper-coloured. In this case the good effects of the sublimate were almost instantly discovered. Two other females, the former whose nose was partly eaten away by ulceration, and the latter by loss of the palate, were supplied only with the sublimate.

The patients in general appeared gay and lively; none of them complained of swollen testicles, or excessive salivation.

Those who had incipient symptoms of the disease, and complained of soreness of the mouth, took only half a dose of the sublimate, and in some cases ceased the use of it.

We did not observe any topical application on chancres. The ulcers, which corroded the lips of one female patient, were touched over with antimonial butter, or ointment. It was by caustic that almost all the buboes were opened. One young girl had an eruption over her eye-lid, of the size of a crown-piece, yet there was not another venereal symptom. M. Cullerier (the nephew) remarked to us, that it was a doubtful case; in that stage, therefore, he would not venture to recommend a treatment of the corrosive sublimate.

The wards, the linen, in short



every department of the hospital, is well administered for the health and comfort of the patients. It is a great consolation to those who may unfortunately be infected with that noxious disease, that they can retire to a sequestered asylum, instituted for their relief and recovery, without expense or exposure; for in general, throughout the provincial hospitals of France under the superintendence of the holy sisterhood, the unhappy patient is totally neglected, from this *humane religious motive*, that the more severe the sufferings, the greater the atonement! The poor wretch may in the interval, from absolute neglect, timely perish. These veiled angels seem to forget that *chastity* is a virtue more open to attack in a nunnery than in a convent; and that charity tells us to forget all errors, when the suffering victim claims our assistance and protection.

One ward of the hospital is named "the Infirmary Ward." Dangerous cases are always sent there, as well as those who may, in the state of treatment, for one disease, accidentally contract another. During that interval, we observed that, the use of mercury was altogether depended.

There is also another ward particularly set apart for lying-in-women, infected with venereal complaints. We cannot avoid here remarking on two particular points, relative to this Lock Hospital. In the first place, the almost exclusive use of corrosive sublimate, and then in small proportion that exists between the few secondary cases, and the examples of confirmed *syphilis*. For this reason, the former is hardly even in England, and few persons can be disposed to substantiate the ad.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 54.)

**CRISIS AND CRITICAL DAYS.**  
 HIP. The fits and kinds of disease, the season of the year, and the preservation of the alteration of times of the fit's return, whether for every other day, or after a

long interval, will shew the sharp invasion or extremities of the disease. Also signs are taken from those things which appear afterwards, as in one sick of a pleurisy; if spitting appear presently in the beginning of the disease, it declares the disease to be short; but if it be longer it shews the continuance of the disease: moreover, urines and excrements of the belly, and sweats, declare whether the disease will prove easy or difficult, short or long.

COOK. As this discovers the times of diseases, so how diet must be ordered therein. Now there are two ways whereby diet may be rightly ordered, viz. first, by the history of the disease; that is when the disease is known to be come to its greatest strength; discovered by the species of the disease afflicting, from the time of the year, from the state and vicissitude of the periods, and from the epiphenomick signs. The second is, we note the strength of the party, of which aphorism 13, 15.

ED. Good.

HIP. In whomsoever a crisis approacheth, the night before the fit, is tedious; but the night following is commonly more easy.

COOK. In observing the signs of concoction, take along with you the vehemency of symptoms, that you may make the more certain prognostick; for when the combat between nature and the disease begins, the symptoms are chiefly exasperated. The aphorism shews the antecedents and consequent of a crisis.

ED. True.

HIP. Acute diseases are judged in fourteen days.

COOK. The fourteenth is the end of the second week, when they change either to life or death, to better or worse; such are caused of thin and hot humours

ED. Not true.

HIP. The fourth is the index of the seventh; the eighth is the beginning of the second seventh; also the eleventh is to be considered, for it is the fourth day of the second week. And again, the



seventh is to be observed, because it is the fourth from the fourteenth, and the seventh from the eleventh.

COOK. The third of the principal days is the twentieth, which is the seventh from the fourteenth, the fourteenth being here numbered; for it is the last of the second week, and the first of the third, as this aphorism informs us; only some part of the crisis may take up some part of the one-and-twentieth day.

HIP. We ought not to be too confident if an acute disease slacken without any reason, neither much fear those diseases which happen without reason; for most part of them are uncertain, and do not usually last long.

COOK. For if it slacken without reason, it threatens a relapse; and if it come without reason, it is not much to be feared; for it will fall, having no good foundation.

HIP. To be one's self, and well disposed to things offered, is good; but the contrary is bad.

COOK. Because the natural faculty, and its subservient parts, especially the ventricle, is well disposed, or in a pretty good plight.

ED. The above three, wrong.

HIP. Diseases in children do for the most part attain to their crisis, some at forty, some in seven months, some in seven years, some when they come to ripe age; but those which shall continue longer, and shall not be dissolved in men-children, when they come to about fourteen years, or fifteen; and in girls, when their courses break forth, use to last a long time; but it is otherwise in those elder.

COOK. It is to be understood of those new-born, those that tooth, and such diseases that come not from diet, or faults of the belly. Those after forty days are fevers, cough, inflammation of the navel. Those of seven months are unequal quartans, diarrhoeas, pains of the teeth. Those of seven years, epilepsies; of ripe age, ill colour. In girls, epilepsies, if they dissolve not, then they endure to the end of life.

ED. Not true.

HIP. If a sick person's eyes, in fevers or other diseases, drop tears

voluntarily, it is not absurd; but if not voluntarily, it is absurd.

COOK. Those are called voluntary which proceed from manifest and external causes, as sadness, grief, and sometimes joy, which are not dangerous; but involuntary ones are either caused by the inflammation of the eyes, or sharp defluxions; and these are also out of danger, or they proceed from a critical perturbation, and do chiefly presage a crisis from flux of blood, which also threaten no danger; and these are known by preceding signs of concoction, and absence of bad symptoms. Or lastly, They arise from resolution of the retentive faculty, which is in the corner and other parts of the eye, and these are naught, and distinguished from the rest by the cavity and extenuation of the eyes, and other symptoms which necessarily accompany them.

ED. Cook is sublimely obscure.

#### ON CHEERFULNESS AS CONDUCIVE TO HEALTH.

So many and varied are the evils incident to man, that oftentimes he is so much depressed, that all the kindness and attention, which friends may lavish, is frequently employed in vain, and rendered useless by the gloomy apprehension of the afflicted, who imagine no thing can redeem them from the unpleasant circumstances in which they may be placed. The loss of wealth, they suppose they can never recover; for the death of valued and esteemed friends they weep, as though their very tears could restore them again to life, and in whatever form evil may assail, they are sure to sink into the most gloomy despondency, hopeless and forlorn, as would leave a spectator to imagine, the cares were above whatever mortals knew, which will render their condition worse, by adding to the acute anguish, the horrors of despair; thus is it with them, in the every day occurrences of life, where anything like difficulty, or tri obstructs their wishes and design, nor is it alone hurtful to the mind, but equally so to the body, which



can never be in a healthful state, under undue grief, and habitual lowness of spirits, which as certainly injures the body, as well as disease; for no maxim is more true, than that cheerfulness of mind and serenity of spirit, is highly essential to the vigorous enjoyment of health. How often do we observe, those who seem to banish all care from their minds, who meet whatever may occur with so much complacency, as though it seems not in any measure to concern them; enjoy, almost invariably health, and consequently every blessing it affords; not that we would encourage a thoughtless indifference to the passing concerns of life, but we would deprecate that undue, habitual sorrow, which will admit of no comfort, hear of no mitigating balm; who shrink from society, and in solitude do but increase their misery, and mourn and weep, till their exhausted natures sink beneath its weight, until, perhaps, the silent tomb engulphs their persons, and their cares, within its narrow bounds; and thus prevent the joys which after life might have in store, to bless their lot; depriving, too, their friends of the pleasures of rejoicing, as well as weeping with them. How many by their mental anguish do more harm, than a proper controul over their affections might have done good. To those who value health, (and who does not?) we would earnestly recommend them to encourage a cheerful disposition, a frame of mind composed and easy; alike avoiding an extreme of care-worn solicitude, or a giddy gaiety, and thoughtlessness: temperance and moderation in every thing is no bad rule, and those who follow it can never be far from what is right. Why should persons be always repining, for ever fretful, have they not good things to be thankful for, as well as evils to deplore; for so united are they, as to follow each other, and to forget the beneficial, and remember only the distressing, is surely not the part of wise men; let them place the one against the other, balance

them as fairly as they can, and generally will they find the good preponderates; and should it, perchance, be otherwise, why should they by dwelling on fatalities, make them more numerous by unavailing grief: which cannot fail to produce a fretful and irritable disposition, which tends to weaken the body, induce a train of nervous complaints, and finally, loads the body with disorders, which possibly it may be beyond the power of medicine to restore to its native vigour. This is no imaginary or improbable result, for so united and dependant is the body, on the state of the mind, that when the one is under any excitement, the other is as assuredly likely to be affected thereby; for where body and soul is in so close an union as in man, where exists the improbability of their mutual action? Let, then, those prone to indulge in griefs and "cankering smart," take heed lest by unwarranted distress, they injure their health, and destroy their peace of mind; thus, probably, putting it beyond their power to reap during succeeding years, the blessings which unjustifiable sorrow has precluded visiting them; which, for aught they know, might otherwise have been ultimately their happy lot.

T. N.

July, 1824.

#### CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

##### BITE OF A VIPER.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*  
SIR,

As accidents of this nature occur generally in the country, and in situations remote from professional aid, induces me, through the channel of your valuable publication to give publicity to the following mode of treatment. As soon after the bite is inflicted as possible, the remedies should be applied; and I believe, if the rules be adhered to which I shall now lay before the public, will prove effectual. Their application should be prompt, and used before the sub-



tile virus has transfused its baneful effects into the general system.

A piece of soft sponge should be immediately applied to the wound, that its absorbent qualities may imbibe the superabundant moisture; then freely apply olive oil to the part affected. Should the bite be in either of the limbs, which is generally the case, a bandage should be fastened round the limb with a moderate degree of tightness, between the injured part and the body, and kept on until the poisonous symptoms have abated, or medical advice procured. When the accident happens to an adult person, give four or five grains of camphor, and immediately after it a teaspoonful of spirit of hartshorn in a wine glass of cold water; the hartshorn and water to be repeated at intervals of half an hour, as long as the dangerous symptoms continue, but as they subside, the medicine may be discontinued.

One grain of camphor may be given to children from four or five to ten years of age, and ten or twelve drops of spirit of hartshorn in half a wine glass of water, to be given at intervals as before directed. Be it kept in view, that the dose should be in proportion to the age of the patient.

If the above process be successful in removing the deleterious effects of a venomous reptile, should not the same means be adopted for the bite of a rabid animal? I have reason to suppose it would alleviate, if not altogether remove, the direful effects of hydrophobia. It surely is worth trying.

B. J.

#### STING OF A WASP.

WASH the parts with spirit of ammonia, and wrap a piece of linen about, steeped in spirits of wine. If the pain continue six hours, put on a hot poultice of bread and milk, and continue it for two or three days, changing the poultice every four hours.

#### DEAF AND DUMB STATE.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

SINCE your interesting publication has appeared before the public, I have ever received it with the greatest pleasure, from a consciousness that it might be of considerable use to the community at large, if men of real medical skill would condescend to favour it with some of the results of their operations, and unite these with your own.

When I first saw the "Adviser," I suggested to a friend how great might be the benefit that would arise, not only among the lower class, but likewise among those who have it in their power to consult medical professors. He differed not with me in opinion; and I believe, that since that time he has contributed largely to it. I have observed persons ask your advice through the medium of your publication, and I have seen them answered, either by yourself or some of your correspondents, in a manner that did no less credit to your humanity than your ability.

This encourages me to hope, that by calling your attention, as well as that of your correspondents, to a subject which very nearly interests me, you may be able to bestow a blessing which nature has refused. I have a friend whom heaven has thought proper to deprive of the sense of hearing and the faculty of speaking;—a most interesting friend! who has ever been thus deprived. Perhaps nature may have given her a sense of perception and acuteness which she possesses greater than ordinary; it may have been more liberal to her in bestowing finer feelings: but a being deprived of the sense of hearing, and consequently the power of speech,—what is he? I therefore take the liberty of asking your advice for my friend, and begging some of your correspondents to give an essay on the subject. History is not without record of men having been restored to the possession of speech, who had been born dumb. At least an essay may be produced tending to point



out a means for ameliorating the condition of those who are so unhappy as to be afflicted with this distressing malady. In concluding, I inform you that I take this liberty of soliciting your advice, influenced by two motives; the one is, that your exertions may ultimately turn to public good; and the other is, that even should your endeavours prove useless, I shall have the satisfaction of remembering that I have not been wanting in attention to one very dear to me.

Your's, most respectfully, E. Z.

\* \* *We will consider the subject in our next, or in the following, if, in the meantime, our Correspondents do not.*—ED.



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

#### DR. EADY'S PAMPHLETEE.

THE public will perceive by the perusal of the following tirade against the "Medical Adviser," that Eady is now incurable. He has been so deranged as to pay, absolutely, £10 to a needy writer, for the MS. of his pamphletee, and he has employed placard bearers in all parts of the town to sell the production. Knowing that his readers are not very numerous, we give it all the publicity in our power, in the hopes of curing the maniac.

*"A Blister for Burnett, the Goose, prescribed and applied by the Author of 'More work for Scribblers.'"*

*"Audi alteram partem."*

"No doubt, learned Burnett, your medical skull,  
With Combativeness' organ is strikingly full,  
That Destructiveness likewise has great elevation,  
Benevolence small; while the lines imitation,

Ideality, form, comparison, size,  
The attributes noble of Gall's prodigies,  
Nor printer nor patient is able to trace.  
But, like the block's forehead, all's undefin'd space;  
Yet you murder and slay, in your penny vocation,  
Not the man, — you're too dastardly—but reputation:  
You physic and blister, write labels, defame,  
Your object to bring into notice your name.  
For this you (so pliant and servile your art,)  
Would kiss (pray excuse us) of Cooper now Bart.  
Thou son of Apollo, not physic will do,  
But also his *Lyre* you'd monopolize too;  
Thou bastard on both sides; nor lancet nor quill  
Can make the world swallow your venomous pill;  
Thou erudite, editing threepenny post,  
Thou base lying varlet, your labour is lost;  
While you in your Grub-street, are poison's concoctor,  
And want as a scribe, as you starve as a doctor,  
Secure in th' esteem of the good and the wise,  
The fortune of EADY will prosper and rise.

"Who Doctor Burnett is we neither know nor care. He has announced himself as the god-papa of scurrility, and must not be offended that he is made accountable for the 'nefarious' excursions, at the expense of both truth and justice, of his satanical bantling. To go through the notable philippic in the third Number of the 'Medical Adviser' is our object, to critically dissect and examine it; and we have every confidence that the learned doctor will, at the end of our journey, be admitted to a new degree, and thence be enabled to couple with the adjunct M.D. the more classical appellation A.S.S. The doctor, trained, as of course he has been, in one of those hocus-pocus hotbeds of medical science, Cambridge or Oxford, seems to have neglected that part of education for which those learned schools are most celebrated. viz. gentlemanly conduct, or he would have felt that the



grossness of the terms "impudent, audacious, and ignorant," so far from aiding truth, are never resorted to but by vulgar minds, where violent invective is substituted for argument. We shall not descend to put ourselves upon a level with this dealer in thread, paper, and wood-cuts, this new organ of gullibility, but we wish, and "heartily will many of his fraternity join their wishes with us upon this point," that he had stuck to his gallipots, and not set out on a BUCHANEERING plan, under the mask of threepenny prescriptions, of filching from honesty its name, and subjecting his physical person to the corrective discipline his *cacœthes* requires, or to the iron fangs of durance vile, in order to afford him scope for reflection. We are afraid of no bully, and when we cannot reply to impudence we will bear the imputation of ignorance. But to the charge:—The doctor finds out that our first and greatest crime is an affiance to trade.—What an outrageous simpleton! Trade, in a nation of shopkeepers, gives lustre to the star which adorns the prince, encourages by its generous warmth the growth of those myriads of necessitous scribblers who obtain a precarious subsistence by imposing on credulity; a tribe who are the veriest quacks in practice, superficial in acquirement, and who make up a little something once a week by paste and scissars from the writings of others, and palm their stolen nostrums off as the lucubrations of their own genius.—But the doctor says, "Let the cobbler stick to his last." Why not you, doctor, stick to your lancet? There are innumerable instances in the history of science where the mind has broken through the trammels of early initiation, where, self-taught, it has soared into the highest region of fancy and the arts, and proved the brightest ornament to its adopted profession! We believe that the great Dr. Herschel was a trumpeter; that Bloomfield the poet was a ploughboy; and we know, which is a case in point, that the most celebrated surgeon of any age or coun-

try, was a bread and cheese carpenter.\* Therefore the doctor proves nothing by his charge of tape-selling; he should have gone further, and logically proved a negative with his affirmative; that we were not only brought up to trade, but that we have not that quantum of talent to enable us to walk in any other course than that in which force or accident in boyhood placed us. We shall say to the doctor, as a certain judge replied to a barrister, who reproached him with his shaving origin—If you had been a tape-dealer, you would have been nailed like a bad shilling to the counter, destitute of the courage or wit requisite for migration.

"The Doctor next proceeds with a tale about handcuffs and a watch-house, which is very facetious, and wants nothing to recommend it but one essential, viz. Truth. We hope the Doctor will not feel his consequence hurt, when we tell him that a more rude and uncalled-for lie has never been imposed on the public, since Munchausen practised with such singular success in the wonderful. We have no disrelish to a little fun; but it should be wrapped up with some of that essential—ingenuity. Here there is nothing but barefaced falsehood, introduced for no other purpose than to identify us as our own eulogists. It is true that the great SIRS of the healing art do not have their titles chalked on walls; but they have their aid-de-camps—their tools—their sycophants, to do their dirty work; their jackalls hunting for daily flummery; and where is the mighty difference? One man has the puff indirect, the other the puff direct; one the contingent, the other the obscure; one is chalked up on the walls, another is chalked up by extracts from a threepenny register of exploits in the provincial journals throughout the empire. Depend on it, Doctor, much as your sensitive delicacy is shocked by the term, all men are quacks, "from his murdering compeer, the once mighty conqueror," to the assailed Dr. Eady.

\* The late John Hunter.



“ It is admitted, Doctor, by the laws of optics, that objects become tinged by the colour of the medium through which they are viewed, and we know that rage is on the adverse point to reason; but we did not suppose your blundering jaundiced, zeal would have rendered you so illogical. You say we chalk the walls ourselves, and in a subsequent paragraph inform the world that we can scarcely read. Some children may copy what they do not understand; but we think it will require more tact than you exhibit to establish both your assertions, that we have ourselves decorated the advertising walls, and that we can scarcely read what you call our own flourishes. You attempt to prove too much, and thence fall into the unhappy plight of proving nothing. “ The twinkling of the bed-post, and, give it here mun,” are the frequent ribaldry of ill nature, when it seeks to defame. Why not a pig’s whisper, or a brace of shakes, or some other of the cant slang which modern taste has introduced into society as distinguished as yours and your learned chums.

“ We have alluded, Doctor, to the assiduity with which you woo both the sister arts of the patron god, and we select, as the success of your amour with the fairy muse, your poetical illustration of medicine in the hands of the ignorant. Could you not have chosen a goose-quill in the hands of a fool, which even disgraces the gabbling bird whence it is stolen, which issues its hissing to the annoyance of common sense, and murders (far heavier punishment than the loaded musket going off, so elegantly expressed) the character of the honest, and wounds the feelings of the innocent. But the Doctor is only a dabbler in this elevated class of literature, and will, we doubt not, soon return to the shop, his lazaret of acerbity, and deal in more natural articles for his genius than satire—lemon-juice and cream of tartar.

“ The ‘ Adviser ’ introduces in his tirade a letter from a Mr. Smith, imputing to us a charge of eleven pounds for not curing him. We

know nothing of the circumstance; but we challenge the complainant to a more minute detail of his injury, that we may satisfy ourselves he is not an impostor.

“ But even supposing there may have been a case of failure amongst thousands, is it certainly attributable to us? May there not have been inattention, disregard to prescribed means, irregularity of life, &c.? We have known more than one instance of medical men (we hope we shall not shock the morality of the profession) suffering under nodes, venereal sore throat, and eruptions, who had the supreme advantage of their own advice, sanctioned by that indisputable test of deep research and experience—a college examination. We have heard of errors or accidents by the greatest men in the profession. Mr. C. in tapping wounded the epigastric artery, and the patient bled to death; the great Dr. Hunter mistook a prolapsed uterus for a polypus, and tied with a ligature the *os ostiæ*, which destroyed life; and, were it our intention to revile a learned and useful profession, we could fill a volume with the failures and blunders of the greatest professors of the healing art.

“ The learned Doctor finishes his chapter on quackery by advice (not gratis) to the public. He tells them, “ you that are poor, go to public institutions,” forgetting that such have no means of even getting this advice, without a threepenny fee. Admirable consistency! To those who cannot pay largely, ‘ go to some half-pay doctor, who will treat you conscientiously.’ Now what does all this amount to?— ‘ I am very ill, and cannot pay much.’ The doctor enquires how much—then follows the scale of price, till it finds its *minimum*, and this doctoring Editor who has evidently taken a leaf from his half-price friend’s book, has palmed off his own and friend’s mode of practice upon us. Now the world know all this is humbug. Let a pauper go to ———— for advice, he is sure to arrive too late, and he is turned over to some



young man just beginning, who wishes to bring himself into notice and practice, by exhibiting a dirty step to his door, and having heralds in every garret ready to write his name, or to the same effect, throughout the metropolis. We say this is all humbug, and the Doctor knows it. If he wishes to write down quackery, and believes that the poor and the ignorant are its dupes, let him give away a few thousands of his weekly admonitions amongst those classes whom he knows will not buy his prescriptions. As the Doctor, he says, 'Buy my book, and you'll not want physic;' as the book-maker, 'Buy my physic, and you'll not need the Medical Adviser.'

"This is double-dealing—but certainly not quackery. We have the very highest respect for the profession medicine and consider its members of the ornament and safeguard of the age. We admire the skill and precision with which Sir Astley Cooper wields the knife, as we revere the splendid talent of Abernethy. But we have yet to learn, why no one, after having duly studied and practised for a long course of years, and whose habits are attentive and persevering, should not acquire as perfect knowledge of pathology, physiology, chemistry, and the materia medica, as the stripling who devotes five years to carrying out medicine, and beating the mortar, who runs in crowds through an hospital six months, and becomes the learned practitioner at the age of twenty. Are all men, *ab origine*, of the thousands in physic, distinguished for talent?—If so, their light is under a bushel. It is a miracle to hear of a Hunter, it is an age of wonder when an Abernethy graces the profession.

"The doctor alludes, in a subsequent number, to our being tried at the Old Bailey. What! in the same court with Sir A.\*? But what is our real crime?—That we have

succeeded;—that we are amongst the lucky ones. The doctor has forgotten King Charles's remark to one of his courtiers, who, speaking of a person whose merits had distinguished him, and calling him lucky, said, 'I always find these lucky men very clever fellows.' We will conclude by proving to the doctor that our medical studies have not been in vain, and that quack as he calls us, we can describe the disease under which he labours; which so deranges his sensorium as to render natural dulness, mulish stupidity. Its remote cause is desire of money, its proximate the want of it, its symptoms, envy, excess of gastric juice, restlessness, suppressed bile, and splenetic affections, which, by exhausting the nervous energy, predisposes to mania, or idiocy. It may be classed amongst the diseases of morbid excitability. We offer the doctor our advice, and will, if it be necessary, furnish the remedy, and personally administer it; the mode of cure is by *metastasis*, to produce a diversion of blood from the heart and large vessels, which will be safely and effectually accomplished by the application of a small horse-whip between the shoulders, whenever the symptoms are violent.

"Most learned Doctor, we respectfully take our leave, and we submit it to your learned confederates and readers whether the unlettered Eady the quack is not a match for the hissing Burnett the goose.

"'Tis rare in rival artists to allow  
A brother chip the smallest share of merit;  
They take the laurel from the honour'd brow  
And show a sniv'ling diabolic spirit."

"Something like this we have read somewhere, we quote from memory; and all we know of the authority is that we did not copy it from—Dr. Burnett.

"Mr. Jukes's Catheter will, we fear, be required to relieve the poor doctor's overloaded stomach. What an awkward animal is a jackass in a drawing room, Sir Andrew Ague-

\* The Author is far from insinuating any thing injurious to the character of Sir A. C. He means only that at the time that gentleman had his examination at the College of Surgeons, it was situate in the Old Bailey.



check in a gravel pit, or a three-penny author made to bolt, like poor Mr. Lynch, not a puppy's, but his own *pulvis excrementissimæ*. Heigho! doctor, 'tis a difficult case.

"Singultus, Subsultus, and coma—but down the nauseous dose must go.—The poor author gives a violent kick, and sinks, alas! into original insignificance and nothingness.

"Peace to the half-witted elf!—He was pleased to take the upper hand of a dray (for a dray we are in our movements against interested arrogance) and, sacrificing his life to his pride, had his guts squeezed out between the wheel and the post. All Grub Street sings a requiem to his memory—Caleb Quotem digs his grave—Doctor Pangloss is chief mourner—the *irregular* quacks wear weepers, and the public set up a horse-laugh—Hah! hah! hah!"

(!!!)

"The Medical Board, Charlotte House, Great Charlotte Street, opposite the Rev. Rowland Hill's Chapel, &c. &c. A Pocket Manual. Ten Minutes Advice from the Medical Board, in a Lecture on the Lues Venerea, &c. &c. Price 1s.

THE quacks are not contented with privately administering their baleful draughts and poisonous pills to the unwary, but they unblushingly publish to mankind the most indecent and disgusting accounts, which, if true, would be unpardonable in a regular practitioner, and expose them to sale in public places, and at a price so low, that any one may purchase them; but no matter, so as they get money, they are not nice as to the means employed. A filthy book with the above title a correspondent of ours lately found in the pocket of one of his brothers, a boy about twelve years old. Of the consequences likely to result from the perusal of such a work by a boy of his age we need not mention: we will, however, beg our readers to recollect, that the celebrated Sir Harvey Columbine Daniel surreptitious Knight, &c. &c. was at the head of this establishment.

## "MR. GOSS" THE "ÆGIS OF LIFE" GENTLEMAN.

*This mock Company had the audacity last Saturday, to indict Mr. Shackell, the printer of the Medical Adviser, for an alleged libel therein contained; but the grand jury, (men of good honest English sense) ignored the bill. The reading of the bill afforded a hearty laugh, and we are credibly informed, that several of the jury observed, that if they found the bill, they might expect next to have Dr. Eady!*



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Dr. James the Water Caster.*—A fellow of the name of Blogg, who quacked under the title of Dr. James, this week had the impudence to come into court to recover the amount of a promissory note for £180, and was justly nonsuited; the following is an extract from the proceedings.—

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE (interrupting Mr. Sergeant Pell)—Is this man an apothecary, surgeon, or physician; or is he a miserable object going about the world killing his Majesty's subjects, and robbing them of their money?

Mr. Sergeant Vaughan in reply, said, that it was immaterial whether he was a regular practitioner or not. It was not necessary that he should be either a surgeon or an apothecary to maintain this action, since it was founded on a written instrument.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE intimated a contrary opinion, but would not stop the trial, until the defendant's



council had identified the plaintiff with this degraded quack James.

Mr. Sergeant Pell continued. He would prove to the jury, that up to the 21st of July, Mr. Pinker had been attended by Mr. Edwards, and when they recollected that Mr. Pinker had no other complaint than old age, and that he had paid Blogg 6l. for medicine in the interval between the 21st of July and the 6th of December, they would see that it was quite absurd to believe that he had ever knowingly given Blogg a note of hand for 180l., payable on demand, for "his care and medical attendance." He had no doubt that as Pinker was going out of the world, that note had been put into his hand, and that the plaintiff had obtained his signature to it, without informing the old man of the nature of the instrument: for if some trick of the kind had not been used, how was it that the plaintiff, who was far from a rich man, had allowed his claim to so large a sum to lie dormant for 18 months after the death of Mr. Pinker, when, if it had been fair, he might have asked for the payment of it within six months? He contended, that even if the signature was Pinker's, it was gained by fraud, and must be illegal, since no consideration had been given for it. The plaintiff had received notice to prove the consideration which he had given; and the absence of that proof, united to the other circumstances of suspicion which had been detailed to them, would, he was sure, induce them to give such a verdict for the defendant as would prevent the plaintiff from robbing her of the large sum of money which he had the audacity to claim. The learned Sergeant then called the following witnesses:—

Edward Hatton.—I am a baker, living in West-street, Bristol. I know Mr. Charles Blogg. I knew him at Bristol by the name of Dr. W. James. He lodged at my house: he hung a board out of the window, announcing that Dr. W. James was to be consulted there. This is one of the hand-bills he used in my house in May, 1821. I never saw him myself at Keynsham.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sergeant

VAUGHAN.—I have not seen Mr. C. Blogg lately. He lodged for six months in my house. I am sure that he is the same person with Dr. W. James. I am sure of that point, because he acknowledged to me in my shop at Bristol that he was. I said to him, "I hear, Mr. James, you have changed your name lately?" "Yes," said he, "I have: I am now called Dr. Blogg."

Mr. Sergeant VAUGHAN.—That is, you mean to say that a nasty fellow of the name of James confessed to you that he pirated the name of a very respectable gentleman called Blogg?

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE.—I am afraid, brother Vaughan, that that nasty fellow will turn out to be your client.

*Serjeant Vaughan submitted to a nonsuit!!!*

[We recommend this case particularly to the notice of Mr. Goss, the Ægis of Life gentleman.]—ED.

*Hydrophobia.*—Scarcely a paper comes into our hands without a case of fatal hydrophobia. We would ask what is the use of all the mongrels and curs which crowd the streets of every town and village?—Why are they not destroyed? The legislature would do well to pass an act to prevent the rearing of any dogs but game-dogs, and that all others now living, should be forthwith destroyed. It is melancholy to think, that for no useful purpose whatever, a crowd of poisonous animals are constantly passing between the legs of the public, and that a "single snap is death!"

A fatal case of canine madness occurred last Sunday, at Stepney. Mr. Thomas Bennet, baker, of that parish, was bitten by a dog about five or six weeks ago; on the Wednesday previous to his dissolution, he was attacked with the first symptoms of Hydrophobia, and was treated in the usual way, by the surgeon. We regret that our proposal for introducing the stomach syringe, into the stomach, for the purpose of trying the effect of water thus conveyed to the system, *has not yet been tried.* We



now for THE THIRD TIME, call upon every medical man, who may meet with a case of Hydrophobia, to try our proposal ; patients in this melancholy disease, die for want of water—at least their death is accelerated by it, and surely the introduction of water by the syringe, affords reasonable grounds for hope.

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*Throat Cutting*—has become very fashionable among physicians abroad, to *preserve life*. It used, in the olden time, to be resorted to for a different purpose. Now, if there becomes any obstruction in the wind-pipe, the surgeon whets his knife, makes an incision, clears out all matters that ought not *lawfully* to be there, closes it up, and every thing goes on with the patient as usual. We observe in the last papers an instance of this kind. A child in Newbury, Vermont, had part of a raw bean lodged in the wind-pipe, and was at the point of death—when the above operation was performed ; and it is now in good health. Who would be surprised, if, at some future day, we should have the *head taken off*, to put a disjointed neck in order !—*American Paper*.

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*Lord Byron's heart*.—This organ which kept the spirit of genius alive for thirty-seven years, is of rather a larger size than is usually the heart in men of Lord Byron's stature ; its fibres are firm, and the large blood-vessels arising from it, thick and strong ; the coronary arteries, or those arteries which nourish the heart itself, are very large in proportion.

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Some years ago I attended an officer possessed of great firmness of mind. His complaint was supposed to be a disease of the kidney. While he slept I had frequently observed his lower lip to become pale, accompanied with slight convulsive motion in a lateral direction. After death, one of his kidneys was found converted into a bag of pus. On consulting Morgagni, I found this peculiar appearance mentioned as a diagnostic symptom of

diseased kidney. Hence may be inferred the advantage of paying a minute attention to the science of symptomatology.

Redness of the nostrils, accompanied with an inclination to pick them, indicates the presence of worms in the intestinal canal.

I have observed, even in the worst species of fevers, when many unfavourable symptoms were present, that if any appearance of eruption or scabbiness appears about the margin of the lips or *alæ nasi*, recovery is not to be despaired of.

An aphorism of Hippocrates states, that in general, if a patient, labouring in any serious disease, yawns, or coughs, or sneezes, or any other involuntary action takes place, recovery may be expected.

Doubts have been entertained respecting the existence of a tendency to hereditary disease. Such scepticism appears to have originated rather in the affectation of singularity, than from the spirit of truth, and the observation of nature. The existence of hereditary virtue is generally acknowledged. "*Fortes creantur fortibus.*" Certain families are celebrated for virtue, for valour, for genius. Why then should we doubt, that others may be prone to infirmities and defects. Does any one question the evident resemblance of children to their parents ? Is not the circumstance of an extra finger, or even of a peculiar mark upon the skin, observed to descend from generation to generation ?

A resemblance in the mental qualities of children is no less obvious than in their bodily conformation. Upon this influence of the constitution of parents upon their offspring depends the whole system of improving the breed of animals. Why then entertain any doubt, that children are born with a disposition to the diseases of their parents, both corporeal and mental ? These diseases do not indeed disclose themselves until certain periods of life, when children may be said to occupy, as it were, the place of their parents in society. Of certain families the lives of indi-



viduals never exceed fifty years. Others at certain periods of life are attacked by paralysts, phthisis, or insanity. A hereditary disposition to scrofula will hardly be questioned. Certain families are liable to cancer, a tendency to which is said to be indicated by a dusky skin, accompanied with a florid complexion.

But the tendency to peculiar hereditary disease is mainly discoverable by attending to the structure and conformation of the nails. The organization of these parts is analogous to that of the horns of animals. Formerly they were termed the spermatical parts, as being

formed from the seminal principles of parents. The various breeds of cattle are distinguished by the structure of their horns, and in like manner the resemblance of children to their parents is especially marked by the relative appearance of the nails. The children of mulattoes, and even of negroes, when recently born, are nearly as fair as the offspring of Europeans in tropical climates, but even at that early period experienced native midwives can accurately ascertain the purity of the blood, by carefully examining the nails.—*Buchan on Symptomatology.*

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

B. H. OF NEWCASTLE.—No letter received.

H. R.'s humane intimation, has echoed our sentiments upon hydrophobia. We will treat upon it in our next.

To A. B. R. we say, that we care not what any other publication, whose Editor is so narrow-minded as to endeavour to put himself forward by imputations on us, may advance. We set out with a straight forward, open, and liberal line of conduct; and as yet, have no reason to think that we have deviated. What we stated upon the point he alluded to, is from our judgment, we are still of the same opinion.

HENRY——W——MS. should go on as before. He may use the Iceland moss.

J. SYKES, DRUGGIST, of Leeds, who requests our opinion as to his treatment, &c. of a case of eruption of the skin, is informed, that diluted citron ointment should be tried, and after that, (if not successful,) daily warm baths with an application of the same ointment immediately after.

A CONSTANT SUBSCRIBER may find benefit in page 338, "MEDICAL ADVISER."

L. B. must read our advice on corpulency; he should bathe and take strong purgatives every two or three days.

MARY Z. Z. Z. in addition to her present medicines, must take five grains of blue pill every third night.

1. 2. 3.—Take an occasional dose of the family pills given in an early Number of our publication.

J. ILITIRA should anoint the child's head with citron ointment, night and morning; if this be not attended with benefit in a fortnight, let us know; he must give, also, ten grains of rhubarb every second day. We would thank him for the cases.

VERITAS is under consideration.

J. R. should wear gloves for a fortnight, night and day, and anoint the hands every night, with spermaceti ointment.

R. S. should dress the ulcer with red precipitate ointment, twice a day.

THERE are letters remaining at our publishers, to E. D. C.—T. W. M. H.—MR. W. WILLIAMS, JUN.—MR. J. W.—

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 36.]

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THE BOWL.

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### THE BOWL.

THE bowl has been the theme of poets time out of mind. If we believe them, it possessed every virtue. By its effects disease was put to flight, and poverty rendered imaginary. But, alas! how different is the reality of plain prose, when contrasted with such poet's fiction! Look to the plate in the first page: it speaks a volume of home-shot truths that no man can deny. There the fiends Apoplexy, Madness, Dropsy, and Gout, hover over and torment the votaries of the midnight bowl. Disgrace sits in the centre of it; while the lizard-like monster Poverty shakes his empty purse in derision at the group; and Death, with wide stretched arms, awaits to receive his premature elect. It would be tautology to repeat our opinions upon drunkenness, as we gave them in our first number, and refer our readers to them for a further illustration of this plate.

### HYDROPHOBIA; OR, CANINE MADNESS.

THE commencement of hydrophobia is marked by unusual anxiety, timidity, and sighing, severe pain in the epigastric region, difficult and painful deglutition of all liquids, accompanied by a sense of suffocation, dryness of the tongue and fauces, a small weak pulse, and slight pyrexia; its progress and close by continual watching, laborious respiration, intolerance of light, and the motion of air, a discharge of viscid saliva from the mouth, and not unfrequently by convulsions.

The disease arises from the introduction of a small portion of the poison by the bite of a rabid animal, and that commonly of the canine or cat kind, as being those which are most domesticated. Some of the old writers have asserted, that it has occurred from the contact of the saliva, without the intervention of the poison of a rabid animal with the skin, independently of any bite, or the infliction of any apparent injury; but the possibility of this I much doubt. At any rate, the oc-

currence is to be considered as very rare indeed.

There can be no doubt, however, but that symptoms exactly resembling those of the genuine rabies canina have arisen in the human body from other causes. Local irritation from wounds in irritable habits, especially when conjoined with a perturbed state of the passions, and also violent passions of the mind, independently of corporeal injury in hysterical and hypochondriacal constitutions, have at times produced all the symptoms of canine madness. Violent alternations of heat and cold, and all other causes which induce great debility, and at the same time increase the irritability of the system, have also at times proved adequate to the production of symptoms exactly corresponding with those of rabies. Such cases have been denominated by medical writers, spontaneous hydrophobia. A few have gone so far as to doubt the existence of this affection, as arising from the bite of a rabid animal and an absorption of the virus; contending, that all the phenomena witnessed in this terrific malady may be referred to nervous irritation from terror and apprehension of its occurrence, and are wholly independent of the saliva, *erroneously*, they think, considered poisonous; but the fallacy of this hypothesis has been most satisfactorily ascertained.

Many have doubted whether madness can arise in animals without preceding contagion. Some cases recorded by M. Rossi in the *Mem. de l'Académie de Turin*, tome 6, evidently demonstrate, however, that animals previously healthy become capable, when enraged or irritated to a high degree, of communicating disease by their bite; a circumstance which, although long credited by the vulgar, wanted the support of direct evidence to establish it satisfactorily.

(To be continued.)



## STYES ON THE EYE-LIDS.

THIS disease shows itself by a red pustule upon the edge of the eyelid, which gradually encreases and becomes white. It is sometimes attended with considerable pain, particularly if rubbed with the hand; which is a common practice, from the itchy sensation of the disease. The best way to cut it short is to puncture the pustule with a needle as soon as it becomes white. Nothing more is necessary; and any other application is injurious or useless.

## BITE OF A RATTLE-SNAKE.

THE Indians who work in their native fields are often bitten by serpents, and from no puncture being discernible they frequently fancy the bite to be a prick of a thorn; however, they soon find out their mistake; the unfortunate victim is attacked in a few minutes with sickness of the stomach, stupor and cold sweats, which rapidly terminate in death. The poison of the rattle-snake is of a greenish yellow colour, which in hot weather becomes darker. It is more active during the coupling season, and so dreadful are its effects that it kills a dog in a few minutes.

The following is the mode of treating this poison. A tight ligature must be passed above the part, if on the arms or legs, so as to prevent the absorption, and then the wound is to be sucked, and then scarifying the parts or cupping, so as to occasion discharge of blood. This is the mode practised by the Creek Indians. Excision, if done immediately, is the best. The fresh juice of the rattle-snake plantain, applied to a wound of this nature, is said to be a powerful antidote against the poison of this reptile. We are told by Captain Carver, in his travels through North America, that so convinced are the Indians of the power of this antidote, that for a small bribe they will permit a rattle-snake to drive into their flesh.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 86.)

## OF PURGING, EVACUATION, AND VOMITING.

HIP. Those in perfect health difficultly bear purging.

COOK. It is very unprofitable, because it would draw away that which nature would retain.

HIP. Those endued with health of body quickly faint by purging; so do those that use bad nourishment.

COOK. Besides what is before, note, that ill habit is to be purged by degrees.

ED. Wrong;—a purge occasionally in health is of service.

HIP. Hellebore is very dangerous to healthful bodies, for it induceth convulsions.

COOK. It exhausts the solid and membranous parts of the body, weakens the body, and bites the stomach, which procures rather a convulsive motion than a true convulsion.

ED. True.

HIP. In summer, it is more fit to vomit, in winter to purge.

COOK. The reason is, because yellow bile and hot humours abound in summer, and are more easily carried upwards, but in winter the contrary happens.

ED. Hippocrates speaks wisely, but Cook nonsense.

HIP. In dog days, and before, purging is naught.

COOK. Because the humours are burnt up at that time, and cannot bear the sharpness of purging medicines; it is meant of diagridiated medicines, lenitives may be used.

ED. Cook is silly.

HIP. Those that are of slender habit do more easily bear vomit: only forbear in winter.

COOK. Those that are fleshy cannot so well bear it, and therefore to be purged downward.

ED. True.

HIP. Those that are fat and not subject to vomit, purge; only beware in summer.

COOK. For at any other time of the year you may securely do it.

ED. True.



HIP. Give not vomits to those in a consumption.

COOK. For it encreases the ulcers of the lungs, and by it the vessels are torn.

ED. This is good; but now it is a practice to give an emetic when the patient is near death.

HIP. Purge melancholy people strongly by stool; by the same reason the contrary way may be used.

COOK. That is, the lighter part of the matter is to be drawn out by vomit first, and the heavier by stool.

ED. True.

HIP. Those troubled with a lien-tary in winter, it is ill if they vomit.

COOK. He means such vomits as are general, and purge the whole body; for in particular vomits you may do otherwise; as if you would ease the stomach of phlegm, we may do it by vomit in winter; and by the like reason, if yellow bile be in the intestines only, we may in summer purge.

ED. Good.

HIP. If those not feverish loath their meat, have a gnawing at the mouth of their stomach, a dark vertigo and bitterness of the mouth, it signifies they need to vomit.

COOK. For these are three symptoms, by which it may be known the sick needs vomiting.

ED. True.

HIP. Whosoever having need of emptying, have pains above the midriff, it is a sign they must vomit; but if under, purge downward.

COOK. If not diseases from wind and plethora, but those the cure whereof wholly consists in purging; for an ophthalmia is not cured by vomiting; yet in other, nature more affects that way.

ED. Wrong.

HIP. If there be griping about the navel without a fever, and heaviness of the knees, and pain in the reins, they signify purging downwards.

COOK. Because all these symptoms shew that the noxious humour, motion and violence is downward.

ED. True.

#### POISONOUS SODA WATER.

THE beverage called soda water is fre-

quently contaminated both with copper and lead; these metals being largely employed in the construction of the apparatus for preparing the carbonated water, the great excess of carbonic acid which the water contains, particularly enables it to act strongly on the metallic substances of the apparatus; a truth of which the reader will find no difficulty in convincing himself, by suffering a stream of sulphuretted hydrogen gas to pass through the water.

#### SEPTENARY CHANGES IN LIFE.

(From a Work by Stahl.)

A SEVEN months child will live.

If a child breathe freely the seventh hour after birth, it will survive.

The seventh day the remains of the naval string drop off.

At twice seven days a child notices the light.

At thrice seven observes objects, and follows them with his eyes.

At seven months the teeth begin to appear.

At thrice seven the child begins to walk.

At thrice seven months begins to utter words.

At four times seven months walk alone.

At seven years the teeth are renewed.

At twice seven years the beard begins to appear.

At three times seven years the body attains full growth.

At four times seven life is in perfection, and till six times seven continues so.

At six times seven the strength and health begins to fail.

At seven times seven the mind has attained maturity.

Ten times seven is the full age of man; after which period, life in general is only trouble and vexation.

*On the Necessity of Air and Exercise to those who follow Sedentary Employments.*

ALMOST all the members of civilized society are obliged to follow occupations of some kind or other; in a country where its commercial engagements are its support, and where



the sources of its wealth are necessary to its very existence, it plainly appears much must depend upon the industry of its inhabitants. The manufacture of many articles, and those probably the most in demand, require almost the undivided attention of the individual, more particularly so where the manufacture is much complicated, and delicate and tender in its formation; these require covered roofs to shield from the inclemency of the weather, which might otherwise be injured during its production; this may apply to many articles of daily use and application, and which require the constant presence of the individuals who may be employed, and prevent them taking air and exercise during the greater part of the day. Those whose lot it may be (and it is absolutely necessary) to follow such employments, should, when the hours of relaxation arrive, take all the air and exercise they possibly can, and not, as many do, constantly retire to some alehouse, or other place of resort, and there spend their time which business may not require, in intemperance or excess of riot, which, together with the previous unwholesome air they probably may have breathed, added to these hours of excess, will most assuredly injure health, and consequently tend to shorten their lives, which otherwise might have proved a blessing to their families, by their being enabled to procure them the necessaries of life, instead of leaving them, as many do, entirely destitute of support, and a burden to society. Now, to such we would earnestly recommend a totally different practice. How much better would it be in every respect, both as it regards their bodies and their pockets, occasionally to walk out in open places, thus reaping the benefit of air and desirable exercise. The invigorating stimulus this might afford would in a great measure counteract the baneful influence of many employments. Thus may the mechanic, and those who may obtain their daily bread at the board or loom, enjoy health by paying some little attention to it. Air, they must be

aware, is as absolutely necessary as food, and both of these are rendered better by their quality; and as many pay as little regard to the one as the other, it may be necessary to remark, that the plainer the food the better, well masticated, and in moderate quantity. Many are so fond of pampering their appetites; and among those, numbers who cannot afford it, and who have scarcely the means sufficient to procure what is absolutely necessary, yet still they will have luxuries of some kind, be their quality ever so bad, so the price suits their pockets, purchasing what is reduced in value by its bad quality, thus eating what cannot fail to do them incalculable injury; it would be well if they remembered that plain and wholesome food is better both for rich and poor. That what is best for them is most in their power, and which, if followed, would exempt them from those diseases which but too often overtake the rich in their luxuries, by not only affording them the best nourishment, but contentment also. To the sedentary, we would again urge air and exercise; the contrary induces many diseases. When the body is in an inert state, and the attention busily engaged, too, the blood does not flow with that ease and rapidity which nature requires, the circulation is impeded; it flows not in that quick succession by which the body may obtain the secretions necessary for its preservation. Thus a train of infirmities may follow too close an application to pursuits which require much confinement. Exertion quickens circulation, good air purifies the blood, plain food invigorates the frame, which will enable persons to go through their avocations with comfort and ease to themselves. Foolish enough must they be who neglect such simple means, so within the reach of every one, that whoever will may follow them; and no one surely would forego, for the sake of saving themselves the trouble of a little attention, the blessings of health, which all can truly appreciate who have felt the reverse, for



they have been so cast down when disease intrudes, that when returning health came, how have they hailed its wished approach.

T. N.

### THE MODE IN WHICH WINDS AFFECT THE SYSTEM.

LET us imagine a number of pipes or canals, of an elastic flexible nature, replete with some fluid; the pressure of the incumbent atmosphere is, in this case, to be considered as a pondus acting against the force of these elastic canals, with that of their contained fluids. And according to mechanic laws, these distractile tubes will be so far compressed by that incumbent weight till a just equilibrium is produced between the two antagonist forces, and then they will preserve themselves on both sides in that state, till some farther alteration shall happen to lessen the momentum either of one or the other. If, therefore, the pressure of the incumbent columns of air be in any measure broken or taken off, the canals will restore themselves so far forth by their elasticity, till the momentum of their retinency becomes equal to that of the diminished pressure; from whence it is manifest (supposing the contained fluid to be in motion) that the rate of the progress of that fluid must needs undergo an alteration in proportion to that of the change made in the external pressure; for the stronger pressure will straiten the canals, and consequently encrease the velocity of the fluid, as, on the other hand, the more feeble pressure will give way to the canals endeavouring to enlarge themselves, and by that means will contribute to the more slow and deliberate motion of the fluid; the application of all which to the bodies of animals is very obvious and easy, for they are nothing more than so many complications of branching canals and tender flexible membranes, easily yielding to an external pressure or pulsion, and capable of restoring themselves by their innate spring. The great weight of the atmosphere

is always pressing down on these machines, and it is the spring and retinency of their parts which is the counter-balance to it, and preserves them from receiving injuries by it; the vessels, consequently, which serve for the distribution of the animal fluids, being differently straitened and compressed by the various weights of the incumbent atmosphere, the liquids are affected with new and different degrees of velocity, and therefore when any extraordinary changes happen in the weight and pressure of the atmosphere, there must be as considerable changes in the motions of the fluids; but violent gusts of wind, hurricanes, and the like, will necessarily produce very great differences in the weight of the incumbent atmosphere, and therefore very considerable alterations may be made in the motions of the liquids in animal bodies by such causes as these.

From whence it follows, that whatever changes are possible to be produced in animal bodies by the mere alteration of the velocity of the liquids, are, in some measure at least, producible by very strong and violent winds, and these changes in the animal economy (that depend upon the altered velocities of fluids) are not a few.

### *Of States of the living Body that may resemble Death.*

I AM now to enumerate the varieties of apparent death. It is necessary, however, to premise that this term seems to have a particular application, being much used as a synonyme of *Asphyxia* and *suspended Animation*. I wish however to employ it in its ordinary signification of any state of the body that may resemble death, however imperfectly, or by whatever mistaken construction.

The state of the body most closely allied to death, is that in which vitality is actually inert. This has been termed *asphyxia*, which literally signifies want of pulsation, and in our own language, *suspended animation*.

Whatever interrupts respiration, arrests the circulation of the blood; and this, when continued for a very



short period, throws the body into a state in which many of the signs of death are exhibited. Respiration may be interrupted in various ways, all terminating in one phenomenon, which perhaps it is pardonable to designate the proximate cause of suffocation. Of this there will be occasion to speak at large, when the varieties of death by the application of suffocation in various forms come to be considered, under the head of homicide. We shall then, however, see the subject in a point of view somewhat different from that which at present demands our attention; for we shall have to ascertain in what way some individual cause of fatal suffocation has been applied: we are now to hazard a few observations on the subject of rescuing a person apparently dead from the occurrence of that event in reality.

In all cases of this nature the discrimination as to hopelessness of administering means for recovery is determined upon very simple grounds. It will be generally easy to learn either by the circumstances in which the body has been found, or the history of the event, to what exciting cause of asphyxia it has been exposed; whether to an irrespirable atmosphere, to water, to mechanical pressure on the windpipe, or to some other form of suffocation; and it may be, that we shall learn how long it has remained under the influence of whichever of these causes is concerned.

But this would be an unsafe and unwarrantable principle on which to lean for guidance in the discharge of our duty. It will be more proper and more scientific to enquire whether, in the absence of all casual assistance of the above nature, there may not be discoverable in the body itself, certain signs or appearances indicative of the real nature of the case.

No satisfactory account of symptoms generally applicable can be given. Perhaps the following is all that can be warrantably said of the matter, under the circumstances we have at present to consider. The surface of the body may be either cold or warm, pallid or not. In the countenance there is either unusual lividity or redness, or a diminution of

the natural colour, according to the cause, or to other circumstances various in their nature. The tongue is frequently pushed to, or even beyond the lips. The eyes are protruded in many instances of strangulation, and also suffused with blood. The pupils are commonly dilated, and insensible to the stimulus of the strongest light. Insensibility indeed pervades the whole system. The hands are generally clenched, as in the act of grasping, and excretory evacuations often take place. Of what has occurred internally we can have no positive assurance until the efforts for recovery have been duly used in vain, and the complexion of the affair so far altered, that we confine our investigations to the *ratio moriendi*, for the satisfaction of justice—under which view of the subject we shall in their proper place have opportunities of considering more minutely all the phenomena, and assigning to each variety of this description of death, those which more especially characterize it.

Unless there be conclusive evidence, from the state of the body, as to the extent of violence exhibited by marks, or the presence of putrefaction, the circumstance even of hours having elapsed since the exposure to the noxious influence took place, will not of itself be sufficient to bar the application of the resuscitating process; nor will the want of immediate success warrant its discontinuance until hours shall have been occupied in vain.

Between the state of asphyxia, or animation merely suspended, and that of absolute death, the only satisfactory means of discrimination is the result of the proper application of the approved means of recovery. To introduce an account of these, though it might be constructively applicable to the purpose of this work, is not directly so; and were I to do the subject justice, I should be under the necessity of excluding other matters which more essentially belong to my present business. Practitioners are at no loss for authorities on this important topic, the imperfect discussion of which might be attended with inconvenient consequences.

Cases of the foregoing nature are



connected with some extraordinary or accidental event, that gives rise to alarm, and necessarily implies notoriety; but we shall meet with instances where persons are apparently dead in the seclusion of the sick chamber, or in the ordinary course of private life. That this appearance is often very imperfect, must be acknowledged; but as it not unfrequently causes the visit of a medical practitioner, it will be proper to make a short allusion to some of the states of the body which assume more or less of this aspect.

Authors have improperly included syncope and apoplexy under asphyxia. In the former we have paleness and insensibility, with impeded circulation and respiration; added to which, these symptoms frequently continue for a considerable time, notwithstanding the diligent application of remedies. Nor will the previous history of the case of itself always enable us to discover what has taken place. There are however some causes usually productive of this state; and in a case where the knowledge of such is connected with the appearances of syncope, we may readily form a right judgment, particularly if the habits of the individual are known to us. But people faint under circumstances that do not, *prima facie*, imply the existence of an ordinary cause; and on the other hand, death not unfrequently strikes a blow in the very same apparent manner. On a sudden alteration of posture, for example, one person may fall down and expire immediately; and from the same cause another shall fall in a similar manner, but in a short time will recover and rise uninjured. In the former case an aneurism of the aorta will be found to have burst; in the latter it will be no more than a fainting fit.

The exciting causes of syncope are very numerous, and are often resident in the nervous system, acted upon through the mind. Sudden emotions have caused paroxysms of this nature that have proved fatal; the verification of which belongs to another head. The

loss of blood, by removing the stimulus necessary for the maintenance of the vital functions is a very palpable cause; and it is even produced by sudden change of posture, and a voluntary power which is to be acquired.

The principle of discriminating, by the effect of remedies, as in asphyxia, may be considered applicable also here; but that which refers to the history of the event must in some measure be set aside; for a sudden change of posture, in instances like those above contrasted, may either depend on extinction of life, or induce a paroxysm of syncope. In respect therefore to the event that has caused the phenomena, we must look beyond the more recent occurrence to the previous state of the individual; whether he laboured under any organic affection, or had been subject to fainting. Restorative measures, however, prove successful in mere syncope; and there are commonly warmth in the body, contractility of the pupil, some pulsatory motion (about the heart at least) and perhaps a degree of muscular agitation.

Of *apoplexy*, *cataplexy*, *hysteria*, and *hypochondriasm*, all of which may be, and some of which certainly have been mistaken for death, it is not necessary to speak particularly. In these cases proper examination, aided by knowledge of what preceded or apparently caused the phenomena, will always enable medical men to decide that the vital principle is not yet extinct, or even that certain functions of life are still in activity, though feeble and obscure.

In some diseases, exhaustion takes place to such an extent, that it is often matter of great uncertainty, even where the strictest attention is paid, whether the vital spark be actually fled; and in cases of precipitancy, or of confusion, as in times of public sickness, the living have been mingled with the dead. In warm climates, where steady interment is more necessary than in temperate or cold countries, there can be no doubt that such mistakes occur; and after difficult labours, the state of exhaustion is often very



great, and has proved deceptive. The case of M. Rigaudeau, related in the appendix, was of this description, and on one occasion I saw a scandalous instance of precipitancy attempted as to interment of a similar nature, which will be given also hereafter.

*Trance* is a familiar term in our language, but to which, though there are corresponding words in other tongues, it may be questioned whether any precise ideas are attached. With what the vulgar understand, or pretend to understand by a trance, I shall not here concern myself. If we look into cyclopædias and scientific dictionaries, we are referred from the word *trance* to *ecstasy* or *lypothymia*, the latter term being one received into certain systems of nosology. In this sense, it is impossible to mistake between the state alluded to and that of death; for the definitions of *lypothymia* imply that pulsation and respiration continue to be carried on. The popular notion of a trance is at least too fanciful, if not too extravagant, to be entertained by the physician. We have no experience of a state in which the soul can for a time leave the body (to all appearance) dead, and return in the manner of a resuscitating application. A trance therefore cannot (according to such ideas as knowledge of organic life will warrant) amount to more than a deep comatose state, in which the continued exercise of the vital functions may be so obscure as to escape the notice of uninformed observers.

We must also refuse our belief to the histories on record of people being reduced to a state of close simulation of death, by the administration of drugs; a conceit to which we are indebted for many dramatic plots and romantic tales: a profound or a morbid sleep, is all that we can suppose to have been believed in by Shakspeare, who has not disdained to make use of this very article of machinery.

The story handed down by Dr. Cheyne, has always been received as authentic; but though to all observation, the gentleman who was

the subject of the phenomenon exhibited no sign of life, it is manifest that the presence even of volition was a feature in the case; and as it has been correctly remarked, the body may be alive even after mental phenomena have ceased. Stories are recorded of persons who by their friends were considered to be dead, and who, retaining a consciousness of the preparations making for their own interment, were yet unable by any sign to put a stop to the awful proceedings for some time. It is hard, however, to believe any such thing, without better evidence than that upon which these and similar wonders are communicated.—*Smith's Forensic Med.*

#### OF THE RESPIRATION OF ANIMALS.

THE effects of oxydation are, to red-  
den the blood, to renew its stimulant power, and to communicate heat, not so much to the blood, as to the whole body through the medium of the blood, and to assist in the secretions and chemical changes which are incessantly going on in all parts of the system. This is accomplished by the perpetual and rapid motion of the blood through the lungs; and there it is exposed to our atmosphere, which is a mixed fluid very different from what we at first conceive, or what our ignorant wishes might desire to have it; not consisting merely of air fit to be breathed, but for the greatest part formed of an air which is most fatal to animal life, whence it has the name of azotic gas. Of an hundred measures of atmospheric air, we find twenty-seven only to consist of vital or pure air, that is oxygen; seventy-two consist of azotic air, or nitrogen, as it is called, fatal to animal life; and one measure only is fixed air, or carbonic acid, which is also an unrespirable air. But of these twenty-seven parts of pure air, seventeen parts only are affected by respiration, so that in respiration we use much less than a fifth part, even of the small quantity of air which we take in at each breath.

Within these few years, the following opinions prevailed on this subject. The air in respiration is diminished by



the abstraction of a part of the oxygen; there is formed a quantity of carbonic acid gas by the union of the carbon of the blood with the oxygen respired; and there is discharged along with these a quantity of watery halitus. Therefore atmospheric air, after it has been breathed, is found to have suffered these changes: First, It contains now a considerable proportion of carbonic acid, which is easily discovered, and even weighed: because when a caustic alkali is exposed to it, the alkali absorbs the fixed air and becomes mild. Secondly, It has less of the vital air, as is easily ascertained by the eudiometer, which measures the purity of the whole: And, thirdly, All that remains is merely azotic air, unfit for animal life, or for supporting flame. The oxygen, then, in part unites itself with the blood; in part it forms fixed air by combining with the carbon of the lungs; in part it forms water by combining with the hydrogen of the blood. Respiration frees the blood of two noxious principles, the hydrogen and carbon; and it insinuates a new principle, viz. the oxygen, into the blood.

Such has been the opinion of chemists up almost to the present day; but the rapid changes of opinion, and indeed of whole systems, and the confusion into which the discoveries of to-day throws the result of all preceding labours, would almost provoke an anatomist to put out of his system the chemical discussion altogether, until the masses of that science have better arranged their materials, and have arrived at acknowledged principles. More careful experiments have proved that the volume of air expired is the same with that inspired,—the respired air differing only in the variable proportion of carbonic acid gas and aqueous vapour; that all the oxygen taken from the atmosphere by respiration, is consumed in the formation of the carbonic acid gas found in the respired air; and that the heat evolved by respiration is not the heat of the body, but the heat of the respired, latent before, and now become sensible, owing to a change of capacity in the gases.

The change produced in the blood during the circulation in the lungs, is

simply to free it of the superabundance of carbon with which it is loaded in consequence of the secretions performed in the extreme vessels of the system of the body.

As to the heat of the body, chemists seem to have agreed, that full confidence is to be put in the experiments and opinions of Dr. Crauford, whose theories have been criticised in the works of Mr. Bell. The brief abstract of which doctrine we have already given. When the blood of the arteries of the body is converted into purple blood, and enters the small veins, heat is let loose and becomes sensible, giving warmth and a stimulus to the operations of the animal economy. When this venous blood is, in the round of the circulation, brought back to the lungs, it throws out its superabundant carbon, and when this carbon unites with oxygen of the air respired, it forms carbonic acid, and heat is evolved. While this action of respiration is producing heat, it is also forming of venous blood, arterial blood. And as the arterial blood, in its conversion into venous blood, gave out heat, so now, being re-converted into arterial blood, it takes up heat, and that heat is not sensible heat, but latent. There is, therefore, no central fire, as it were, in the breast, and yet there is a source of heat to the whole body from the operation of the lungs. And what degree of heat more than necessary for the conversion of the blood, and which might be injurious, is expended in forming the vapour exhaled from the lungs.

In short, it is concluded that the expenditure of heat in an animal, is proportioned to the loss of oxygen, or, which is the same thing, the production of carbonic acid; and that it is the same in degree, that would be given out in the combustion of charcoal, in a quantity sufficient to produce the same proportion of acid.

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### COLD BATHING.

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THE cold bath is water of any temperature from 42° to 85° of Fahrenheit. When the body is immersed in it, it first induces the sensation of cold, excites shivering, renders



the skin pale, and contracts it so as to produce the papillous appearance denominated *goose skin*; the respiration at the same time is quickened, and rendered irregular, producing sobbing, and the pulse is diminished in force and velocity; but is also rendered firmer and more regular. If the immersion be not long continued, re-action takes place on coming out of the bath; a glow, or agreeable sensation of heat is felt over the whole body, the tone and vigour of the muscles are encreased, a buoyancy of spirit and aptitude for action succeed, and a sense of general refreshment is experienced by the bather. The protraction, however, of the immersion for a considerable time, particularly if the temperature of the bath be under  $50^{\circ}$ , is not followed by this re-action; but the cold water operates as a powerful sedative; the action of the heart and arteries becomes languid, the pulse ceases at the wrist, the animal heat is rapidly diminished, and a sensation of coldness at the stomach is felt, which is succeeded by faintness, delirium, torpor, and sometimes death. These unpleasant effects are occasionally in some degree, even where the immersion is not protracted, and the temperature of the bath is not under  $60^{\circ}$ , in which case cold bathing proves always hurtful, and ought not to be repeated; but when the contrary effects are experienced, it is found to be useful in many cases of debility, particularly in scrofula, if the water be impregnated with salt, or sea bathing be resorted to. The debilitated however, in whom the use of sea bathing produces these effects, when it is employed before breakfast, are not always affected in the same manner when it is used after breakfast or when the stomach is full; but, on the contrary, receives the same benefit from it as those with whom it agrees at all times. The use of cold water as a general bath is never employed with a view of producing its sedative effects; but for this purpose it is partially applied, either by the immersion of the affected parts, or by means of

cloths dipped in very cold water, and laid over or near the parts. It is used as a remedy in active uterine hæmorrhages, burns and scalds, and in local inflammations, even when arising from general disease, as gout and rheumatism, when the surface of the pained parts appears red and inflamed.

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#### MEDICAL PROPERTIES OF JUNIPER BERRIES.

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JUNIPER berries are diuretic and cordial. They have been long known as a remedy in dropsical affections; but they cannot be depended on alone, although they form an excellent adjunct to squills and foxglove. The tops are also used; and as the virtues of the berries depend upon the essential oil, which is found also in the wood part of the plant, they must be equally efficacious. They have been recommended in scorbutic and cutaneous affections; and Rosenstein asserts, that a strong decoction of them soon clears the hands from chopping ulcers. The berries are sometimes given in substance, triturated with sugar or some neutral salt; but the best form is that of infusion, made with three ounces of the berries bruised, in a pint of boiling water: a tea-cup full every three or four hours is the dose.

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#### THE HUMAN FRAME COMPARED TO A WATCH.

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THE human frame may be compared to a watch, of which the heart is the main spring, the stomach the regulator, and what we put into it the key by which the machine is wound up; according to the quantity, quality, and proper digestion of what we eat and drink will be the pace of the pulse, and the action of the system in general: when we observe a due proportion between the quantum of exercise and that of excitement, all goes on well. If the machine be disordered, the same expedients are employed for its re-adjustment as are used by the watchmaker; it must be carefully cleaned and judiciously oiled.



## OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*To cure Chilblains, apply a poultice of hot roasted onions.*

This may be of service, but it must be repeated. We think a poultice of warm bread and milk alternately with it would improve the remedy; also bathing the parts in warm water.

*For Corns.*

*Bind on them a leaf of house-leek, after having well soaked the feet in warm water.*

A good remedy, but will not always cure.

## USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A Dyspeptic Draught.*

A drachm of ether,

Two drachms of tincture of senna,

Mix in a glass of cold water.

This may be taken once or twice a week.

*A good Wash or Injection in Fluor Albus.*

Take of decoction of marsh mallows, a pint,

Add to it three drachms of sulphate of zinc.

This should be used three times a day.

## CORRESPONDENT'S LETTERS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I HAD the pleasure of writing a note to you on the medical practice in Holland contrasted with ours, which you was pleased to give a place in your "Adviser" some time back. I now have to refer to another instance of these persons having in view the benefit of the public at large, and I sincerely wish I could see it adopted in this country; it is a decree or proclamation issued from the State Office in July, throughout the whole of the Netherlands, requesting all persons having dogs, of every description, to keep them tied up from July to September, under the penalty of three

florins for the first offence, and the dog liable to be destroyed. And if a second offence, a penalty discretionary with the burgomaster or magistrates—thus, Sir, is hydrophobia prevented without any trouble. Might not this plan be adopted in this country, where so many accidents occur, and as the persons do in Holland: if they wish their dogs in those days to accompany them, they are led by a cord or strap. So may they in England if they think proper to send them abroad. If you consider this worthy your notice, you will please to give it a place in your paper.

Yours, &c.

M. S.

*Arundel-street, July 26th, 1824.*

*Proposal to deprive Criminals of Life by other means than Hanging.*

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

As it is not professedly in contemplation to torture criminals who are sentenced to death in this country, is it not astonishing that a less painful and more speedy mode of dispatching them is not practised than that of hanging.

I have seen animals instantaneously deprived of life by immersing them in gas arising from fermenting liquors, and die without the least apparent suffering.

And would not the wounding of the spine occasion a much more speedy and milder death than hanging?

Or even decapitation, if performed by the guillotine, would, I presume, be less violent than the present method, and not so liable to those dreadful accidents which so frequently happen at the gallows.

I should be greatly obliged, Sir, by seeing your opinion on this subject, and that of some of your numerous correspondents.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM MAJOR.

*Folkstone, 23d July. 1824.*



## EPIGRAMS

*On the pending Quack Prosecution  
against the "Medical Adviser."*

Mad Eady the quack, and his murd'rous  
compeers,  
From "Sir" Colombine down to quack  
Goss,  
Are in arms; the "Adviser" arouses  
their fears,  
Lest quack Crucifix die on the Cross!

ANOTHER.

'Twixt the quacks and "Adviser" let jus-  
tice decide;  
Will Crucifix triumph, or be crucified?

ANOTHER.

*Anticipating the decision of an  
honest Jury.*

A Jewish king of old declared "there's  
nothing new,"  
They crucified a Saviour—you've cruci-  
fied a JEW!!!

W. J. R.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

## EADY, THE QUACK.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*  
SIR,

IT is a pity "to press the fallen man too far," but this fellow is so abominably audacious in propagating his base falsehoods, that I must claim your readers' attention to the following case.

A young man, slightly affected with gonorrhœa, applied to "the dealer in tapes," and after paying him pretty well, and swallowing a quantity of mercury, &c. found himself in so deplorable a condition, that he was obliged to consult a surgeon (Mr. Ridge, Bridge-road, Lambeth) who, in two or three months, fortunately made something like a cure of him.—That gentleman informed me that his patient had been so over-dosed as to loosen his bones in their sockets; and that he almost despaired of effecting a cure.

As soon as the young fellow recovered strength, he was determined to

avenge his wrongs on the "Doctor" *vi et armis*, and paraded Dean-street several mornings and evenings, furnished with a good thick stick, in the hope of meeting the maniac. Fortunately, however, for both parties Eady was out of the way; perhaps, in St. Luke's, or in *Banco Regis*.

X.

[*Why do people consult such a mad-man?*—ED.]

## THE LAMERTS.

THESE fellows—father and son—are a pair of *worthies* well deserving a seat in our "Quacks Corner," if consummate ignorance and presumption are qualifications for such preferment. The old man is a German Jew, who settled in this country many years ago. He first exercised his powers in the healing art upon the eyes, but finding that the people could *see through him* without his *eye-waters*, he cashiered that branch of practice, and applied his talents to what he termed the "*wenereal*," and with such success, that he managed to live well and save money at No. 3, Spitalfields, where he now has grown blind in the service of—the undertaker and Lock-Hospital. But he is fast dwindling from the public view, and therefore we shall say, "*requiescat in pace*," and merely cautioning our readers against his dangerous nostrums, proceed to examine his son—a truly terrific comet of quackery, sweeping and destroying every thing that is attracted within the fulmen of his dangerous tail.

This hopeful plant—this true chip of the old block, resides at Bristol, where he has fixed what he calls his magnum bonum of empyricism—his central "*Medical Establishment*." He has, besides this quack shop, one at Devizes, and, we believe, another at Exeter. To these he drives in turn, and draws away with him a pretty good stock of *honest earnings*. All Devonshire, and the next fifty counties, does not produce so arrant a humbugger as this; he is powdered from the occiput to the coccygis,—from one shoulder to the other—from the cape of his coat to the buttons of his waist,—a curricule à-la-Jordan, an eye-glass,—a bamboo, and a copper face.



Thus he parades about, all outside, while if you tapped him upon the head it would sound like a drum,—so hollow, so empty, so brainless is the wight. Ignorant as the barber who powders him, he knows nothing more than his puff, which he continually keeps moving in the form of long-winded advertisements in all the country newspapers, extolling the wonderful merits of his “BALM OF ZURA,” a wretched stimulating compound, which is as certain to destroy the intestines, as the inventor and proprietor, “Dr.” Lamert, is of being execrated and despised. His mode of gulling is by exterior show, and therefore he has bedizened the windows of his house with huge transparencies, emblematic of his *humane* calling,—for instance, the *good Samaritan*! He has also a servant in gaudy livery, who stands at the Exchange in Bristol, and there distributes his bills—equally filthy with either Sloan’s or Goss and Company’s; however, the mayor and corporation have lately put a stop to the circulation of them, since which he delivers cards himself. He also attends the theatre almost every night, which he looks upon as his shop, for there he gulls the people by contriving it so as that his servant will call him out several times during the evening, and to the no small annoyance of the audience; for these interruptions always happen when some interesting part of the play is going on,—“*Dr. Lamert is wanted in a minute!*” is bellowed out, and out jumps the quack, all puff and powder, cracking his shins across the benches, while the gaping galleries cry, “*Lauk! what a practice Dr. Lamert must have, to be sure!*”

This fellow has the impudence and audacity to declare openly that he belonged to the army, and that his brother is now surgeon of a regiment. The fact is this:—There is a Mr. Lamert in the army; but a very different man from the quack, and no relation whatever; he is a man of high respectability; he has been in one of our crack regiments for many years, and has received the testimonial of respect from his brother officers, in the form of a handsome piece of plate.

Lamert the quack, of Bristol, would not be permitted even to undergo an examination for the army, for he is without an iota of medical education; indeed his father never intended him for medicine. His early years were passed about Whitechapel in idleness, and in making an ass of himself upon the stage of the Royalty Theatre, where he attempted frequently to sing amidst thunders of groans and hisses. As a proof of the brass which is in this fellow’s composition, he absolutely continued to sing “Black-ey’d Susan” at the Royalty Theatre—the whole six verses—amidst pelting of oranges and clashing of thunderbolts, even to the last line; and then, waving his hat three times, laughed and snapped his fingers at the hissing audience!

So ignorant of even his own language is this Lamert, that in commencing the publication of his humbug “Balm of Zura,” he was obliged to hire a person of the name of Bomville to write his advertisements. This man remains still with him for the same purpose: and sometimes in the absence of Lamert acts the doctor himself, with all the impudence of his master.

A more dangerous quack does not exist now in England; for being amongst a set of country simples, and having an imposing exterior, together with a most deleterious compound, which he presents at an enormous price on every occasion of disease, the ravages must be alarming. He has threatened to prosecute us if we mention his name; but this threat could have little weight in deterring us from our duty. We have no personal feelings against any of the quacks; it is to root out the pest that we are obliged to speak in open terms, and this we will continue to do until the hydra be destroyed.

We now solemnly caution the public against this humbugger, and that mockery, his “Balm of Zura.” He knows no more of treating the human constitution than he does of the longitude. Better, ten thousand to one, take any old woman’s advice, than to entrust one’s health to a presumer like this, who from habit has absolutely



persuaded *himself* that he is a doctor, and therefore stops at nothing. The man must be an arrant dolt who would place his health in the hands of such an ignorant fellow as Lamert.

We will conclude our observations upon this quack by describing a trick which a wag played upon him about two years since, which is as follows:—

He usually attended a tavern in the evenings, where occasionally he indulged his companions with a song, and often with a long-bow story. Here he got many patients, and tasters of his “Balm of Zura.” Amongst them, however, was one who paid him five pounds for a portion of it, and received no benefit whatever. The waggish patient determined to have a laugh at the doctor for his money, and therefore brought to the tavern, one evening where there was a full meeting, an empty bottle, in which had been his “Balm of Zura.” The Doctor had occasion to absent himself a short time from the company, when the wag who had the bottle drew it from his pocket, and made known his intention of “quizzing” the Doctor, which motion was seconded and carried *nem. con.* The bottle was half filled with ———, and half with brandy and water, well sweetened, to which was added, a little ginger and snuff, then corked up and papered. When the Doctor returned, a conversation was introduced about his “Balm of Zura”—a subject upon which he was always at home. His patient declared that this last bottle which he got had turned sour, to which Lamert applied the uphead look of astonishment, and immediately asked for a wine glass in order to taste it. This was instantly placed in his hand, and the bottle uncorked. The Doctor now gravely poured out a glass of the “balm,” and having tasted and tasted, and sipped and smelt it for a few minutes, he declared that he really “thaurt it vas somehow a little saltish,” but that he would change it. One or two of the party were, during the tasting, necessitated to quit the room, to give vent to their risible titilation. The Doctor, however, did not suspect. One of the company now stood up, and declared that it was a scandalous shame for medical men to sell such drugs,

which, being thus liable to change, might perhaps poison the unfortunate taker; and, seeming to be in a violent passion, declared the circumstance ought to be published. Lamert arose, and in the most vehement manner opposed the speaker’s assertions; his gestures were violent, and his voice loud, for no doubt he dreaded the publication of this fact, and seizing a large glass, he poured out the contents of the bottle, and raising himself upon his tiptoes, exclaimed, “Now, gentlemen, to shew you that my balm is incapable of doing injury in any state, I will take this bottle full myself.” So saying, he swallowed the abominable compound, amidst the convulsive roars of his audience!!! The trick was then told into his ears by numberless tongues; and had the person who brought the bottle not prudently decamped, murder would have been committed upon him by the inflamed Doctor. His balm has ever since gone by the name of “Lamert’s Balm of ———.”



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Worming dogs.*—It is generally thought that there exists a worm beneath the tongue of every dog, but this is an error: what is called worming a dog is detaching a portion of the flesh from beneath the tongue. We believe it to have no good effect whatever.

*New nose.*—The Tabcoitian operation has been successfully performed lately in France. The new nose appears but little inferior in use and ornament to the defunct one. An account of the mode of preparing this operation is given in the second number of the “Medical Adviser.”



*Hydrophobia*.—We cannot bring to mind a time in which there has been so many cases of this malady; four in London publicly reported, and two yet not before the public; three in Liverpool, one in Stockport, one in Manchester, and one in Edinburgh. It cannot be alone the *heat* of the weather; for at Lisbon, where it is much hotter, and where there are twenty dogs for one that is here, few cases of hydrophobia occur.

*Patient wit.*—Menage relates an

anecdote of a man of learning who, having been compelled by the combined afflictions of poverty and disease to seek an asylum in the hospital *l'Hôtel Dieu*, when he heard a physician observe to his colleague, in a language which they little supposed was intelligible to the unfortunate patient, "*Fiat experimentum in corpore vile*," immediately rejoined "*Corpus non tam vile pro quo Jesus Christus haud dedignatus est mori*."

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE case of C. C., and indeed the whole matter written by X. should be altered—if the subject were treated in more ambiguous terms, we think it would be of great service. We thank him for the communications.

1. 2. 3.—A glass of port would relieve the symptoms of his eyes. He should read our advice in page 338, "MEDICAL ADVISER."

A. Z. must not take such quacking trash. Let him keep his bowels regular by salts, and use an injection three times a day made with five grains of sulphate of zinc, five grains of sugar of lead, and two ounces of water.

A. Z. who describes his case thus "afraid to lay down of a night lest wind gathering violently in the bowels cause violent stagnation of blood," must not give way to such fears. Let him take ten grains of the extract of colocynth and one of calomel once a week for three weeks.

CLAVIS must endeavour to cure the disease by treating the digestive organs; let him read our advice on indigestion, and adopt from that his plan. He should keep the hand moistened with the diluted citron ointment, and bathe it with warm water every night for twenty or thirty minutes.

ANTI EMPYRIC's request cannot be complied with for want of room. We mean to give in a future number a full direction to fit a family and naval medicine chest, upon the most economical and effectual plan.

X. Y. will find a letter at the post office, Hertford.

HAMPSTEAD should send us a detail of improvement, &c. with our former prescriptions.

VERITAS is libellous. We may perhaps take some of his information.

W. W—'m—t—'s request shall be attended to.

AN ENQUIRER.—Of course Dr. Eady is a haberdasher by trade. He, we understand, is now going into the coal line.

Many Communications are unavoidably postponed.—The private letters were answered on Friday.

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AND  
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EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

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SA'TURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1824.

[Price 3d.



HENRY JENKINS, OF ELLERTON, IN YORKSHIRE,

*Who lived to the surprising age of 169, which is 16 longer than Old Parr.*

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*The great age of Henry Jenkins,  
by Mrs. Anne Saville.*

WHEN I came first to live at Bolton, I was told several particulars of the great age of Henry Jenkins; but I believed little of the story for many years, till one day he coming to beg an alms, I desired him to tell me truly how old he was. He paused a little, and then said, that to the best of his remembrance, he was about 162 or 163; and I asked what kings he remembered; he said Henry the Eighth. I asked what public thing he could longest remember; he said Flowden Field. I asked whether the king was there; he said no, he was in France, and the Earl of Surry was general. I asked him how old he might be then; he said I believe I might be between 10 and 12: for, says he, I was sent to Northallerton with a horse load of arrows, but they sent a bigger boy from thence to the army with them. All this agreed with the history of that time, for bows and arrows were then used; the earl he named was general, and King Henry the Eighth was then at Tournay. And yet it is observable, that this Jenkins could neither write nor read; there were also four or five in the same parish that were reputed, all of them, to be 100 years old, or within two or three years of it, and they all said he was an elderly man ever since they knew him, for he was born in another parish, and before any registers were in churches, as it is said. He told me then, too, that he was butler to the Lord Conyers, and remembered the abbot of Fountain's Abbey very well, before the dissolution of the monasteries. Henry Jenkins departed this life December 1670, at Ellerton-upon-Swale, in Yorkshire. The battle of Flowden Field was fought September the 9th, 1513, and he was about 12 years old when Flowden Field was fought. So that this Henry Jenkins lived 169 years, viz. 16 longer than old Parr, and was the oldest man born upon the ruins of this postdeluvian world. In the last century of his life he was a fisherman, and used to trade in the streams; his diet was coarse and sour, but towards the latter end of his days he begged up and down. He hath sworn in

Chancery, and other courts to above 140 years memory, and was often at the assizes at York, where he generally went on foot; and I have heard some of the country gentlemen affirm, that he frequently swam in the rivers after he was past the age of 100 years. In the king's Remembrancer's office in the Exchequer, is a record of a deposition in a cause by English bill, between Anthony Clark and Mirksion, taken 1665, at Kettering in Yorkshire, where Henry Jenkins, of Ellerton-upon-Swale, labourer, aged 157 years, was produced, and deposed as a witness.

EPITAPH

*On a Monument erected at Bolton,  
in Yorkshire, by the subscription of  
several, to the memory of Henry  
Jenkins.*

Blush not, marble,  
To rescue from oblivion  
The memory of  
HENRY JENKINS,  
A person obscure in birth,  
But of a life truly memorable;  
For  
He was enriched  
With the goods of nature,  
If not of fortune,  
And happy  
In the duration, if not variety,  
Of his enjoyments:  
And,  
Though the partial world  
Despised and disregarded his  
Low and humble state,  
The equal eye of Providence  
Beheld and blessed it  
With a patriarch's health and length of days,  
To teach mistaken man,  
These blessings are entail'd on temperance,  
A life of labour, and a mind at ease.  
He lived to the amazing age of  
169,  
Was interred here, December, 6, 1670.  
And had this justice done to his memory,  
1743.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE  
PULSE.

FROM the most remote antiquity, physicians have been accustomed to judge of the relative states of health and of disease, by the pulsation of the arteries, so termed from the notion that they were tubes for the purpose of conveying air. The physicians of Greece used to examine



the state of the pulse by applying the back of the hand to that part of the thorax where the pulsation of the heart is most discernible. By the Romans, however, it was known that the pulse might be examined in various parts of the body. The fact is, that we may be said to create the pulse we feel, by our compression of the artery. If an artery which extends for some length without sending off branches, as the carotid, be exposed and examined in a living animal, no alternate dilatation and contraction is discernible to the eye; but if gently compressed between the finger and thumb, a pulsation immediately becomes palpable, caused by the slight obstruction formed to the successive undulations of blood ejected by the action of the heart. These pulsations form, of course, a measure of the number of contractions of the heart, in relation to any given duration of time.

The state of the pulse may be explored in any part of the body which admits of the artery being compressed against a subjacent bone, as at the temple, or on the edge of the inferior maxilla, the part where veterinary practitioners seek the pulse of their patients. By modern physicians the wrist is commonly selected, as the most accessible and convenient part to examine the state of the pulse.

The impropriety and indecorum of a physician, immediately on entering a sick chamber, seizing the arm of an invalid, and rudely applying his hand to the pulse, especially if a stranger to the patient, is abundantly obvious. The very presence of a medical man often agitates the nerves of a sick person so much as to occasion material aberrations from the real state of the pulse. Conceiving it impossible to offer more correct instructions for the conduct of a physician on such an occasion, than those laid down by Celsus, I shall translate the passage from the work of that elegant writer.

"It by no means," says he, "becomes a skilful physician, as soon as he enters the apartment of the

sick, to seize the hand of the patient. He ought preferably to sit down, and with a calm and compassionate countenance to inquire concerning his usual state of health, and if he perceives him to labour under any degree of timidity or depression of spirits, he should endeavour to soothe his mind by kind and encouraging conversation. After a proper interval, he ought in a quiet and gentle manner to apply his fingers in succession to the carpus. How frequently," he adds, "does the very sight of a physician perturb the pulse, the rhythm of which is liable to be deranged by a variety of slight circumstances."

Only a slight sketch of the various indications to be derived from the pulse can be attempted on the present occasion. The brief tract of the late respectable Dr. Heberden affords an excellent example of strict philosophical disquisition on this subject. Bordieu's more extensive treatise on the discovery of the crisis of diseases, from the pulse, is chiefly translated from a still more voluminous work on the same subject, by Dr. Solano, a Spanish physician, the study of which will amply repay the attention it demands. I have myself verified, at the bed-side of a patient, many of his minute, and what, perhaps, would be considered by those who had not tried them by the test of experience, fanciful indications; and I have no doubt that many more of his prognostics would be discovered to be founded in truth, by those who would carefully make the experiment.

The Chinese physicians, it is well known, have long had the credit of paying very particular attention to the pulse; they even pretend to derive a much more minute and accurate knowledge of the state of the sick from that source, than European practitioners lay any claim to. I possess a small volume, professing to be a view of the Chinese mode of judging of the pulse, translated by some of the original Jesuit missionaries. The patient is directed to be laid in bed, with his arm resting on a small cushion. The phy-



sician must be seated, and both parties are enjoined to remain calm, silent, and collected. The fingers are next to be applied in due succession, one after another, in order to judge of the compressibility of the artery. The Chinese do not infer solely from the rapidity of the pulsations. Their mode is to compare the number of pulsations of the artery with the intervals of the respiration of the patient. The number of pulsations of a man in moderate health they consider in relation to the time of a natural inspiration and expiration. Four beats of the pulse, during this period, they consider as indicating perfect health. If it exceeds five pulsations, it is considered as too quick; if under that number, as too slow, respecting good health.

It is required to reckon fifty pulsations, in order to form a correct indication. Their chief divisions of the pulse are four: the superficial, the profound, the quick, and the slow. These they consider as having relation to the four temperaments, the choleric, the sanguine, the phlegmatic, and the melancholy. The doctrine of the temperaments at one time prevailed over the whole of the scientific world; and it may be well to pause ere we discard opinions which once held so complete a sway over the human mind.

The pulse may in general be considered as indicating the state of irritability of the living fibre; but many other accidents must be taken into consideration, besides the mere frequency of the beat. A physician of experience rarely makes use of a watch, which, by concentrating his attention merely to the frequency of the pulsations, distracts his attention from considerations of paramount importance. The late Dr. William Hunter used, in his admirable lectures, to ridicule this foppery of the stop-watch, then newly introduced, in a strain of happy irony.

The pulse is full or small, in proportion to the quantity of blood circulating in the vessels; it is slow, quick, strong, or weak, in proportion to the vigour with which the

heart contracts; hard or soft, according to the tension and consequent resistance of the coats of the arteries. If the beating of the artery imparts a sensation similar to that of an elastic cord twitched under the fingers, whether slow or quick, the quantity of circulating blood may always be artificially diminished with safety and advantage.

The organic pulse, not easily described in words, which Solano mentions, denotes the approaching crisis of disease, and is by him denominated the "*lapis lydius Apollini*." He also notices the *pulsus myuris*, or the creeping pulse, tapering away under the fingers like the tail of a rat—always an unfavourable symptom. Farther knowledge of the pulse must be derived from personal experience.

#### A BILIOUS ATTACK.

WITH the following extract from a useful work, entitled the "*Art of Invigorating Life*," we cordially agree; it is a passage in which the author is peculiarly happy—we therefore present it to our readers.

"Indigestion, or, to use the term of the day, a bilious attack, as often arises from over-exertion, or anxiety of mind, as from refractory food; it frequently produces flatulence, and flatulence produces palpitation of the heart; which is most difficult to stop, when it comes on about an hour or two after a meal;—the stomach seems incapable of proceeding in its business, from being over-distended with wind, which pressing on the heart and larger vessels, obstructs the circulation; as soon as this flatulence is dispelled, all goes well again; inflating the lungs to the utmost, *i. e.* taking in as much breath as you can, and holding it as long as you can, will sometimes act as a counterbalance, and produce relief.

"This is the first thing to do when this distressing spasm attacks you, if it is not immediately checked; take a strong peppermint, or ginger lozenge, sit, or if possible lie down



and loosen all ligatures; the horizontal posture and perfect quiet are grand panaceas in this disorder; if these do not soon settle it, take some stimulus: sometimes a tea-cupful of hot water, with a teaspoonful of common salt in it, will suffice, or a couple of glasses of wine—or one of brandy in one of hot water; either of these will generally soon restore sufficient energy to the stomach, to enable it to expel the enemy that offends it, and set the circulation to work freely again. If these means be not speedily efficacious, take half an ounce of tincture of rhubarb, or of Epsom salt, in half a pint of hot water.

“If this complaint come on when the bowels are costive, they must be put into motion as speedily as possible, by some of the means recommended in the following pages.

“It will sometimes come on during the collapsed state of the system, from fasting too long.

“Those who take no food between an early breakfast and a late dinner, for fear, as they term it, of spoiling the latter meal, generally complain of flatulence, languor, lowness of spirits, &c. (and those who are troubled by a cough, have often a paroxysm of it,) for the hour or more before dinner, and heartburn, &c. after it; the former arising from fasting too long, the latter from indulging an appetite so over-excited, that a baron of beef, a pail of port wine, and a tubful of tea, will hardly satisfy it.

“The languor of inanition, and the fever of repletion, may be easily avoided by eating a luncheon, solid and nutritive, in proportion as the dinner is protracted, and the activity of the exercise to be taken in the meantime.

“The oftener you eat, the less ought to be eaten at a time; and the less you eat at a time, the oftener you ought to eat; a weak stomach has a much better chance of digesting two light meals, than one heavy one.

“The stomach should be allowed time to empty itself, before we fill it again.

“There is not only a considerable difference in the digestibility of various foods, but also of the time required by different stomachs to digest them, the sign of which is the return of appetite.

“The digestion of aliment is perfect, and quickly performed, in proportion to the keenness of our appetite at the time of taking it, more or less perfect mastication, and the vigorous state of the organs of digestion, as a general rule, the interval of fasting should seldom be less than three, or more than five hours, digestion being generally completed within that time.

“The fashion of A. D. 1821, has introduced a much longer fast (“a windy recreation,” as father Paul assures the lay brother) than even the elasticity of robust health can endure, without distressing the adjustment of the system, and creating such an over-excited appetite, that the stomach does not feel it has had enough, till it finds that it has been crammed too much.”

## MINERAL WATERS.

It has been already noticed, that although no natural water is found in a state of absolute purity, yet that in general the quantity of foreign matters is not sufficient to give it any very sensible taste or odour. In some instances, however, these are so considerable, and of such a nature, as to prevent the water from forming a part of the nourishment of animals; in which case it is denominated a *mineral water*, and can be useful to mankind only in a medicinal point of view.

The substances found in mineral waters may be arranged under four heads:—

### I. AIR AND GASES.

1. Atmospheric air, (*very common*). It is generally in the proportion of 1-28th of the bulk of the water.
2. Oxygen gas, (*rare*.)
3. Azotic gas, (*Buxton, Harrogate, Lymington Priors*.)
4. Sulphureted hydrogen gas, (*Harrogate, Moffat*.)

### II. ACIDS, in a free state.

1. Carbonic acid, (*very common*.)



2. Sulphureous acid, (*some hot springs in Italy.*)

3. Boracic acid, (*some lakes in Italy.*)

### III. ALKALIES AND EARTHS.

1. Soda, (*Geyzer, Rykum, hot springs in Iceland.*)

2. Silica, (*Geyzer, Rykum, Carlsbad, Pongues, Pu.*)

3. Lime, (*doubtful.*)

### IV. COMPOUND SALTS.

1. Sulphate of soda, (*very common.*)

2. ——— ammonia, (*some volcanic springs.*)

3. ——— lime, (*very common.*)

4. ——— magnesia, (*Epsom, and many other springs.*)

5. ——— alumina, (*very rare.*)

6. ——— iron, (*volcanic springs.*)

7. ——— copper, (*water from copper mines.*)

8. Nitrate of potash, (*some springs in Hungary, rare.*)

9. ——— lime, (*some springs in Arabia.*)

10. ——— magnesia, (*rare.*)

11. Muriate of potash, (*Ubleaborg, Sweden, rare.*)

12. ——— soda, (*very common.*)

13. ——— ammonia, (*some springs in Italy and Siberia.*)

14. ——— barytes, (*very uncommon.*)

15. ——— lime, (*very common.*)

16. ——— magnesia, (*very common.*)

17. ——— alumina, (*uncommon.*)

18. ——— manganese, (*Lymington Priors.*)

19. ——— carbonate of potash, (*rare.*)

20. ——— soda, (*very common.*)

21. ——— ammonia, (*rare.*)

22. ——— Iron, (*common.*)

23. Hydrosulphuret of lime, } (*not un-*

24. ——— soda, } (*common in sulphureous springs.*)

25. Sub-borate of soda, (*lakes in Persia and Thibet.*)

These substances are not all contained in any mineral water, seldom more than five or six being present together; and they are generally in very minute quantity, the character and properties of the water depending on one or two ingredients which predominate. This allows mineral waters to be arranged into the four following classes:—1. *Acidulous waters*; 2. *Chalybeate*

*waters*; 3. *Sulphureous waters*; 4. *Saline waters*. We shall first give a sketch of the physical characters and medicinal properties of each of these classes; and then describe the method of determining the ingredients, and their proportions, contained in any mineral water.

1. *Acidulous waters* owe their properties chiefly to carbonic acid. They sparkle when drawn from the spring, or when poured into a glass; have an acidulous taste, and become vapid when exposed to the air. Besides free carbonic acid, on the presence of which these qualities depend, acidulous waters contain generally also carbonates of soda, of lime, of magnesia, and of iron, and sometimes muriate of soda. They may be divided into thermal or warm acidulous waters, and cold acidulous waters; the temperature of the former, however, does not exceed 72°, while that of the latter is generally about 55°.

The most celebrated springs of this class are Pyrmont, Seltzer, Spa, and Carlsbad. They are tonic and diuretic, and in large doses produce a sensible degree of exhilaration. They all afford a grateful and moderate stimulus to the stomach; but the Pyrmont, Spa, and Carlsbad, contain carbonate of iron, are especially useful in all cases of impaired digestion; while those which contain alkaline carbonates, as the Carlsbad and Seltzer, are more particularly employed as palliatives in calculous affections.

2. *Chalybeate waters* owe their properties to iron in combination generally with carbonic acid; and as this is usually in excess, they are often acidulous as well as chalybeate. The metal is found also in the form of a sulphate, but the instances of this are very rare.

Chalybeate waters have a styptic or inky taste; they are, when newly drawn, transparent, and strike a black with tincture of nut-galls; but an ochrey sediment soon falls; and the water loses its taste. If the iron be in the state of sulphate, however, no sediment falls; and the black colour is produced by the above test, even after the water has been boiled and filtered. There are many chalybeates in Great Britain: but the most celebrated are



Tunbridge, Brighton, and Peterhead: the Cheltenham spring also contains carbonate of iron; but on account of the large proportion of saline matter, and its strong purgative properties, it is not ranked in this class. The Spa springs also belong to this class.

Chalybeate waters are powerful tonics, and are employed in dyspepsia, scrofulous affections, cancer, amenorrhœa, chlorosis, and the other diseases of debility for which the artificial preparations of iron are used. Much of the benefit derived from the use of chalybeate waters depends on the extreme division of the metallic salts they contain, as well as the vehicle in which it is held in solution; while, at the same time their operation is much modified by the carbonic acid by which the iron is suspended. When the water is a carbonated chalybeate, it should be drunk the moment it is drawn from the spring: but the same precaution is not necessary with a water containing sulphate of iron.

3. *Sulphureous waters* derive their character chiefly from sulphureted hydrogen gas; which in some of them is uncombined, while in others it is united with lime or an alkali. They are transparent when newly drawn from the spring, and have the foetid odour of rotten eggs, which is gradually lost by exposure to the air, and the water becomes turbid. When they are strongly impregnated with the gas, they redden infusion of litmus, and exhibit some other of the characteristics of acids; and even in a weak state blacken silver and lead. Besides containing sulphureted hydrogen gas, they are not unfrequently, also, impregnated with carbonic acid. They generally contain muriate of magnesia or other saline matters, which modify their powers as a remedy.

The most important sulphureous springs in this island are those of Kilburn, Harrowgate, and Moffat; on the continent, Aix-la-Chapelle and Barege; which are resorted to chiefly for the cure of cutaneous eruptions, and are applied locally as well as drunk. They are slightly sudorific and diuretic, and are apt to occasion

in some patients head-ache of short duration, directly after they are drunk. They are also employed for curing visceral and scrofulous obstructions, torpor of the intestines, and some dyspeptic and hypochondriac cases.

4. *Saline mineral waters* owe their properties altogether to saline compounds. Those which predominate, and give their characters to the waters of this class, are either,

1. Salts, the basis of which is lime;
2. Muricates of soda and magnesia;
3. Sulphate of magnesia;
4. Alkaline carbonates; particularly carbonate of soda.

They are mostly purgative, the powers of the salts they contain being very much increased by the large proportion of water in which they are exhibited. The most celebrated saline springs are those of Cheltenham and Leamington, in England; Pitcaithly, in Scotland; and Sedlitz, on the continent. They are employed in diseases which require continued and moderate intestinal evacuations; such as dyspepsia, hypochondriasis, chronic hepatitis, jaundice, and strumous swellings. They are more grateful to the stomach when carbonic acid also is present; and when they contain iron, as in the case of the Cheltenham spring, their tonic powers, combined with their purgative qualities, render them still more useful in dyspeptic complaints and amenorrhœa.

To this class the water of the ocean belongs. The quantity of saline matter *sea water* contains varies in different latitudes: thus between 10° and 20° is rather more than 1-24th; at the equator it is 1-25th; and at 57° north is only 1-27th. The saline ingredients in 10,000 parts of sea water, according to the last analysis of Dr. Murray, are muriate of soda, 220.01; muriate of lime, 7.84; muriate of magnesia, 42.08; and sulphate of soda, 53.16. When brought up from a great depth its taste is purely saline; but when taken from the surface it is disagreeably bitter, owing, perhaps, to the animal and vegetable matters suspended in it. Its specific gravity varies from 1.0269 to 1.0285; and it does not freeze until cooled down to 28.5° Fahrenheit. Its medicinal pro-



perties are the same as those of the saline purging waters, but more powerful; and as a bath, its efficacy is much superior to that of fresh water.

The general effects of mineral waters are modified by temperature, whether they be taken internally, or be externally applied. In some springs, as those of Bath, Matlock, and Buxton, their virtues depend almost altogether on temperature; and in others, as Malvern, which has been found to contain scarcely any foreign matter, the simple diluent power of the pure water seems to produce the benefit that results from drinking them. Some of the good effects of all of them, however, must be allowed to proceed from change of scene, relaxation from business, amusement, temperance, and regular hours; and in these circumstances the drinking the waters at the springs possesses advantages which cannot be obtained from artificial waters, however excellent the imitations may be; nor even from the natural waters, when bottled and conveyed to a distance from the springs.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

### IN AFFECTS OF BREEDING-WOMEN AND VIRGINS.

**HIP.**—PURGE women with child the fourth, fifth, and sixth months, (if matter be turgid) but more sparingly; but those before and after with greater caution.

**COOK.** They are more apt to miscarry if they purge before and after. It is true, purges are given almost in all the months when there is more danger feared from the ill humour causing the disease than from the commotion raised by the purge, when the matter is in motion, or works, or when concocted. They are to be gentle, yet they may be more freely given in the middle months, more sparingly in the rest.

**HIP.** The courses being discoloured, and not coming orderly as to manner and time, declares purging needful.

**COOK.** It is to be done according to the humour offending, and then give what may procure them, or both may be done at once.

### WHAT AND HOW TO BE PURGED.

**HIP.** We ought not to move alter or change those things which are, or justly have been rightly determined by nature, either with medicines or other procurements, but let them alone.

**COOK.** Here he instructs in the time and manner of evacuation, in which we are to steer Nature's course.

**HIP.** Those are to be let blood or purged in the Spring, to whom either may do good.

**COOK.** It is the most fit time.

**HIP.** In distemperatures, loosenesses, and fluxes of the belly and vomiting, which come of their own accord, if such things be purged which ought to be purged, are easily endured and are profitable; otherwise it falleth out contrary. In like sort, if in emptying of the vessels it be done as it ought to be, it doth good, and it is easily suffered; otherwise it works contrary effects: wherefore consideration is to be had both of the region, time, as also of the age and quality of the disease, for which such things ought to be evacuated, or else not.

**COOK.** Circumstances are to be respected in evacuations, and nature to be imitated, that so the right diseased matter may be conveyed away by a fit passage.

**HIP.** If those things be avoided and purged which should be, it doth good, and the sick may easily bear it; but if contrary, they painfully endure it.

**COOK.** Such purging as comes naturally By one word in the Greek, he sets down such conditions as attend a laudable purging, *i. e.* if done in diseases in which it is fit that the morbid matter be drawn forth in that quantity which is fit, the matter be concocted and by a fit place. This may take in artificial purging, and so give you more light to the forms.



HIP. If such things be purged as should be, it is good, and the patient doth easily endure it; if otherwise, the sick bears it painfully.

COOK. The comment of the 25th Aphor. may serve.

HIP. Things evacuated and purged are not to be esteemed by the multitude, but adviscdly to be considered, if those things be voided and sent forth, which ought and should, and also if the patient do easily endure it. Also when it is needful we must evacuate even to fainting, if the sick be able to bear it.

COOK. It is not enough to evacuate much.

HIP. Such things are to be drawn out of the body by purging medicine as they are, which issuing out of their own accord would do good to it; but those that issue out in a contrary manner must be stopped.

COOK. We have here a rule of artificial purging, if needful, wherein we are to imitate Nature.]

HIP. He that will purge bodies must first make them fluxible.

COOK. Preparation either respects the humours themselves, or the ways by which they are evacuated; if the humours be thick, they are to be thinned, &c.

HIP. When any goeth about to purge unclean bodies, he must make them fluxible: if you would vomit, stay the belly; if purge, moisten it.

COOK. See the former Aphor.

HIP. When any thing is to be drawn out, it is to be done that way nature affects most, by such places as are fittest for conveyance.

COOK. Hence is taken a definition of purging, which is, the exclusion of vitious humours by a fit place.

HIP. In the beginning of diseases, if there appears cause for moving of any thing, move it; but when in the state, far better to let it alone.

COOK. This seems to explicate the 22d and 24th of the first Aphorisms; and the sum of it is, in the beginning of diseases use evacuation, but not in the state.

HIP. About the beginning and end of diseases all things are more calm and remiss; in the vigor and state more vehement.

COOK. This seems to be a reason of the 29th, and shews purging may be used in the beginning, much more in the declination of a disease.

HIP. It is good to administer purges in very acute diseases, if the matter urge, and that in the same day wherein the sickness doth begin; for to delay longer in such diseases is ill and dangerous.

COOK. The humour swells when agitated with violence, and provokes and pains the body. This is proper to bilious humours which are hot, thin, and sharp, and most subject to breed acute diseases, and these may be purged without preparation, only do it with caution. For most part the humour swells, or urges not.

HIP. Things concocted are to be drawn out by purging medicines, not those raw or indigested, neither in the beginning of diseases, unless the matter swell, which very seldom comes to pass.

COOK. Yet in a phrensy upon a fever the matter swells. As to pestilent fevers, rather drain the first ways by glyster, unless there be greater quantity than can be emptied, which chiefly happens when ill humours happen in the stomach, and then there is great loathing of meat, bitterness in the mouth, stomach, sickness and vomiting; or when there are worms, then purge with benign medicines; those stronger, shun till concoction, unless nature perform evacuation of itself; yet if that evacuation be imperfect purge, lest there happen a relapse.

HIP. In acute diseases, and at the beginning, use purging seldom, or not without great advice and judgment.

COOK. For they by their heat and sharpness encrease acute diseases, and acute diseases are sooner wasted by a critical evacuation than by purging. Only remember what's said before.

HIP. Hellebore being drunk, ra-



ther move the body than yield to sleep and rest; for the sailing in a ship doth manifest our bodies are provoked by motion.

COOK. Seeing motion of itself provokes the body to vomit, much more will it do it with the help of a medicine; so then motion changes and alters the body.

HIP. The 15th of the same varies from this very little, save that it shews. To move makes it work, rest stays.

HIP. Convulsion after taking of a purge is deadly.

COOK. Because it ariseth from emptiness.

HIP. Those which thirst not whilst they are purged with a medicinal potion shall not leave purging till they thirst.

COOK. If a purge have not wrought sufficiently, repeat it; for thirst is a note of right purging. But remember, it is spoke of such a thirst as accompanies purging; for when the body is evacuated there is suction, and that causes dryness.

HIP. Diseases caused by repletion (i. e. surfeiting) are cured by evacuation, and those from emptiness by repletion, and so in the rest, contraries are the remedy of contraries.

COOK. In repletion there is distention of the stomach, weakness of the body, acid belching, bitterness in the mouth, pain at the mouth of the stomach; and truly he doth as much as say, that is right which is moderate and without all excess.

HIP. The relics of diseased matter left after a crisis are wont to bring forth relapses.

COOK. For if the noxious humour be not removed the disease is not cured; only, if a little portion be left, it may be overcome by exquisite diet, nature, and natural heat.

ED. In these aphorisms Hippocrates is generally sound, and Cook is less stupid than before.

## HYDROPHOBIA; OR, CANINE MADNESS.

(Continued from page 98.)

THE fact of rabies sometimes arising spontaneously, appears to be decidedly established by Mr. James Gillman, for he records an instance where a dog that was chained in a yard, without any kind of intercourse with animals capable of inoculating the disease upon him, had it in its genuine form, which was verified by the effect produced by his saliva.

Food of a highly putrid nature, a deficiency of water to assuage thirst, severe exercise during very sultry and dry weather, and a certain state or peculiarity in the atmosphere similar to what produces epidemics of other kinds in the brute species, may possibly be capable of giving rise to madness in the canine and cat species, as well as a long continued worrying of the animal. Some physicians, however, are disposed to dispute the efficiency of these remote causes, and maintain the actual infection from a diseased animal, by an inoculation of the poison, to be the sole exciting cause. There are, however, strong presumptive proofs that rabies does originate spontaneously in some quadrupeds; and carnivorous animals seem most, if not alone, liable to it as a spontaneous disease.

It does not appear, however, that madness is so prevalent among dogs in warm climates as in cold ones; for during a residence of many years in the West Indies I never met with a single occurrence of the kind.

We are also informed by various writers, that canine madness is a stranger to South America; and according to the testimony of Volney it is equally unknown in Egypt and Syria. Mr. Barrow also tells us, that notwithstanding the heat of the climate at the Cape of Good Hope, and though the dogs are fed in the interior by the Caffres on meat in a highly putrid state, still the disease is unknown there.

Rabies seems to arise from a specific contagion, which being once produced by causes unknown, con-



tinues to be propagated by the intercourse which dogs have with one another. It is alleged that the distemper is not communicable from one hydrophobious person to another, by means of a bite or any other way; but this seems to require further confirmation.

The possibility of reproducing this disease by inoculation of the quadruped with virus secreted in the human system, had long remained a doubtful fact, having often been tried without success; but this point seems now determined by Messrs. Magendie and Bresslet having succeeded in affecting a dog with rabies, by inoculating him with the saliva of a man under that disease.

We have no proof that any of the secretions of a rabid animal but the saliva can excite hydrophobia. It is known to a certainty, that the specific poison of rabies exists in the saliva, but it has been a question how far the fluids and solids have been generally contaminated. The experiments of Mr. Gillman have furnished results which go far to prove that the infecting material of rabies is hardly to be found but in the saliva.

A large portion of such persons as have really been wounded by the bite of a rabid animal are never affected with the disease. Mr. Hunter mentions an instance of twenty persons being bitten by the same dog, and only one was seized with it. It is therefore obvious, that different persons are not alike predisposed to be acted upon by the same contagion, and likewise that the predisposition to receive contagion varies in the same person at different periods. The depressing passions, as well as other causes producing debility, probably may predispose the system to the action of this virus.

In the canine and cat species, about seven or eight days may be considered as a fair average of the shortest period in which rabies shows itself after the animal is bitten, and six or seven weeks the longest period from the date of the bite. In the human species, only a few days have in some instances elapsed previous to the symptoms showing themselves; but the most common time of their appear-

ance is from twenty to forty days after the bite. There are no well authenticated instances of the poison lying dormant longer than eleven or twelve months; and we may therefore consider a person pretty safe at the expiration of a year without any symptom appearing.

In the cases quoted by the authors where canine madness is said to have occurred, at the distance of many years from the communication of the supposed poison, we may justly consider them either as instances of spontaneous hydrophobia, as before mentioned, or as such other diseases as occasionally exhibit the anomalous symptoms of an inability to swallow fluids, and an aversion to the sight of them: the poison of a rabid animal has had no share in their production. The frequent occurrence of an aversion to fluids, and of great difficulty in swallowing them in women affected with hysteria, have been noticed by many writers, and some of these facts demonstrate that all the symptoms of canine madness have been brought on by violent affections of the mind in irritable and delicate habits. The fatal termination of some of these instances, tends further to confirm the strictness of analogy between rabies and hysteria. Possibly some cases also of tetanus, in which there has been much local irritation in an excitable habit, conjoined with a perturbed state of the passions, may have been mistaken for hydrophobia, by exhibiting symptoms exactly corresponding with those of rabies canina.

Rabies in a dog is attended with the following appearances:—he generally shows some marked deviation from his accustomed habits. In those which are domesticated, as lap dogs, some strange peculiarities have been observed, as the picking up of the different little objects, such as paper, thread, straw, &c. or any thing which may happen to be presented to their notice. Sometimes they show a depraved appetite, and eat their own excrements, or lap their own urine. Still, however, in this stage, they seldom attack any person unless irritated to it. Although a diseased dog often observes the usual obedience to his master, and evinces the same



attachment, still he is usually extremely irritable, and always treacherous, suffering any one to fondle him, but suddenly snaps or bites with the smallest provocation. In the progress of the disease, his eyes sometimes become inflamed, a purulent discharge issues from the lids. Instead of barking, he often makes a dismal howl, and has usually a listless and melancholy appearance.

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*Whether is Gin, Rum, or Brandy the most wholesome?*

A QUESTION that is often asked. We have heard it defined by hypothetical reasoning from the following experiment:—A piece of raw liver was put into a glass of gin, another into a glass of rum, and a third into a glass of brandy. That in the gin was, in a given time, partially decomposed; that in the rum, in the same time, not diminished; and that in the brandy was quite dissolved. The argument deduced was, that the spirit in which the liver remained unchanged—namely, rum—was the *most wholesome*. Now we differ completely in our opinion; for we know that spirit cannot thus affect *living* animal matter; therefore the stomach cannot, like the piece of liver, be dissolved; and we think that the spirit which decomposed the animal substance—namely, the brandy,—is the most wholesome, because it is the most likely to dissolve the animal food in the stomach.

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**OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED,**

*Churned Milk to wash scurried Hands, at same time to be drank.*

A good remedy, if persisted in for a considerable time.

---

*Soap and Sugar to fresh Wounds.*

This is a most common application, and a worse perhaps cannot be.

**USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.**

*A sudden Emetic in Cases of Poison.*

Twenty-five grains of sulphate of zinc, in a little water.

---

*A good Cough Mixture to promote Expectoration.*

Almond mixture, five ounces,  
Ipecacuanha wine, one drachm,  
Tincture of squilla, one drachm,  
Syrup of Tolu, six drachms.—Mix.

A table-spoonful to be taken when the cough is troublesome.—Good in asthma or common cough.

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**CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.**

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

FRIEND BURNETT,

SINCE thou hast professdly embarked in a crusade against quackery, I have resolved, even at the risk of thy friendship, (and notwithstanding that thou mayest call me a quack philosopher for my pains), to offer thee my advice, which may serve in the absence of better, to warn thee of the danger and difficulty which surrounds thee, and the hopelessness of the consummation of thy wishes.

First, thou attackest the medical quacks, against whom thy bow is strongly bent, and some of whom thou hast severely, but justly, castigated. Nevertheless, I much question whether any lasting good has or ever will be accomplished, unless the work of extermination is immediately begun in every profession where quackery aboundeth, (and where doth it not abound?) Physic bath its quacks; divinity is in no better plight; church and state is crammed even unto loathing with its quacks of one class or other, who have

---

— remedies for every ill;  
Some quack our bodies, some our souls;  
These with a sermon, those a pill.

I conjure thee to desist, then, nor single-handed raise thine arm in the vain hope of rooting out what has from custom almost become a com-



ponent part of that strange mixture—society, or in verity thou wilt draw down an hornet's nest about thine own ears. Attack but one of those vermin, and they will arm against thee as their common enemy; *regular* and *irregulars* (for even quacks have their distinctions) rise in defence of their common cause, whether religious, medical, or political; the former has its miracle-mongers, its fat diocesans, its bloated deacons, trading rectors, starved curates, regular and irregular, who, however, for brevity's sake, must be nameless.

Medicine has its "Sirs" Colombine and Charles, its Brodums, &c. &c. *regulars*, together with its Macdonalds, Camerons, Jordans, Gosses, Crucefixes, Eadys, Healeys, Johnsons, Lamerts, Lynches, &c. &c. *demi-regulars*, with a nameless and equally worthless host of irregulars in every part of the kingdom. Political quackery is on the decline, on which account the spirit moveth me to say little, besides merely shewing that it hath its regulars and irregulars in profusion. The opposition M. P.s for the time being are its regulars; Waddington, Watson, Hunt, and Co. are its irregulars; verily, the latter fellow has, with all his pugnacity, a greater love of money than politics; for since "*radical coffee*" and "*patent polish blacking*" has been in fashion, that is to say, while this quack poor man's friend has been feathering his nest, not even the most passive obedient of his Majesty's loyal subjects could display more equanimity of temper, or calm philosophic docility. Him I recommend to thee as a splendid example of honest political integrity, sound sense, and moral worth; his game is profitable, and not altogether an hopeless dream; thine is as the whirlwind, not within control by human power; quacks and quackery being as firmly ingrafted in society as is the guilt of original sin! and I marvel if it will not be found as difficult to eradicate.

I therefore, as a friend, to whom thy success and prosperity is a gladdening of the spirit, seriously advise and recommend thee to discontinue thy war with the elements, (for such it is to contend with quackery); and

shouldst thou have nothing else wherewithal to amuse thyself, write "sermons," sell "balms," "matchless blacking," or "roasted corn;" the speculation would be more to thy worldly advantage, and more soothing to the spirit of thy friend, who, for the present, respectfully bids thee farewell.

ZEDEKIAH PEACEABLE.

1st day 8th month, 1824.

P. S. If thou takest advice as it is meant, I shall, a Lord's day or two hence, dedicate another hour or so to the correction of thy romantic propensities.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I PLEDGE my word for the veracity and strict morality of my friend Mr. Zedekiah Peaceable, whose letter I have the honour of transmitting to you, as the first of a series of abstract philosophical essays; and should it not be considered quite unworthy the honour, its insertion would oblige,

Sir,

Your's, &c.

W. T. R.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

DR. SAMUELS.

*Old Clothes-man, and pluck-in quack,  
Petticoat-lane, Wapping.*

THEY say that even in hell there are gradations of respectability; so may there be amongst the quacks; and the present subject of our comment seems to illustrate this fact, for he is really the fag-end of quackery. He keeps a shop in a passage leading off Petticoat-lane, in the window of which are placed a blue bottle, a pestle and mortar,



and a few dusty boxes. When we went to inspect it, several little dirty children were sprawling about the shop and at the door, while the *doctor's* wife was up to her elbows in the washing-tub at the other end. We stopped a moment to contemplate the degradation before us, when out pops the doctor. O gentle reader, as book writers say, let us stop our narrative to describe the figure of the fellow. Fancy to yourself one of the most vulgar looking Israelites which Petticoat-lane can produce, with a dirty face and a dirtier looking head, all covered with powder; the hair as if cut round a bowl, and sticking up in short bristles, which seemed as if they disdained to be amongst the flour that encrusted the scalp; his hands as if he had been making shoes, and his coat a russety black. He had evidently just arose from table, where he had been eating red herrings, portions of which were sticking to his mouth and chin, plentifully embedded in grease, and as he addressed us, he ever and anon applied a pin to the interstices of his motley-coloured teeth.

No doubt the doctor, having been informed that a couple of strangers were stopping before his door, jumped up to make the most of a chance. Out he bursts—"Want me, gentlemen?—Any thing in my line?—Walk in gentlemen, do." The honor being declined upon our part, his doctorship looked rather chagrined—a countenance that seemed to say, "I wish you had six c—s, three b—s, and a sore throat each, with all my heart and soul!" and so we parted.

As we walked away we could not help contemplating the poor impostor we had just left, and the government that could permit such imposition. We enquired who this Samuels was, and learnt that he had been a bill distributor for some of his present fraternity, and of the lowest order! Can a civilized country permit an ignorant fellow like this to stick himself down in the way of poor sailors who have had the misfortune to be contaminated

with disease, to not only confirm and encrease that disease, even to the destruction of the poor men's health, but to draw their hard-earned money from their pockets? Can society be called enlightened or wise, permitting such an evil as this? Can our laws be complete and possess no power to stop it? Yet, forsooth, we cannot break a partridge's egg, nor d—n the eyes of a quack, without running the risk of imprisonment or fine!

---

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

IN passing over the draw-bridge, Bristol, a few days since, a man with a large bundle of small printed papers, such as is herein inclosed, was distributing them to every person who passed him. He crammed one into my hands, although in my 81st year of age, which I here inclose. As I take in your valuable publication, and also some of my friends, I have thought it right to send it for your perusal. After reading your spirited account of this *famous doctor* of this city of Bristol, his address to the public in this paper I consider as the most infamous and dangerous to individuals of youth. Instead of being a benefactor to the public, his propositions are calculated to promote the greatest of calamities and evils. I lament there is no law to restrain such improper addresses to the public as this man sends out. You will make what use you think proper of this paper of his, and this letter. My motive is not to promote evil, but to *prevent it*. I do not even know this said doctor, nor do I believe I ever saw him; so that my motive is not personal, nor yet professional. I pay the postage of a double letter with pleasure, and hope it may be a means to prevent this man carrying on the distributions of those vile papers to the public, as he now does. I conclude, Sir, with respect, and hope your candid and honourable principles of justice and



truth will meet every encouragement you so honourably deserve.

AN AGED FRIEND.

Clifton near Bristol,  
3d August, 1824.



LAMERT'S QUACK BILL ABOVE  
ALLUDED TO.

*“ Important Reflections.*

“ IT is most distressing to the feelings of humanity to witness the numerous impositions practised upon a generous and unsuspecting public, and more particularly so, when those ephemeral impostors betake to themselves the once sacred appellation of DOCTOR, and under such a specious title, deal out indiscriminately to their unfortunate applicants drugs of the most injurious and poisonous tendency, and (dreadful to think) destroy the constitutions and endanger the lives of thousands of the community, merely to gratify their own unconscionable and sordid appetites.

“ To those who have been the unwary dupes of such persons above alluded to, as well as others labouring under the ill effects of unguarded pleasures, or debility, arising from whatever cause, DR. LAMERT feels it to be his bounden duty to invite them to his MEDICAL ESTABLISHMENT, where he gives his Advice GRATIS; and from his extensive practice, he is enabled at once to name, with precision, the time that each case will require, as well as the moderate medical charges that will be incurred—advantages that will be obvious to every individual.

“ Persons residing in the country, wishing to consult, and detailing a statement of their case, immediate attention, with advice and suitable medicines, will be sent to any part of the kingdom.

“ London Medical Establishment,  
54, Queen-Square, Bristol.”

(!!!)

*There is a humbug!*

MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY

*Inoculation for the Plague.*

In Sir Robert Wilson's History of Egypt it is stated that Dr. Whyte voluntarily inoculated himself for the plague, for the purpose of experiment. The attempt was twice unsuccessful, but the third proved fatal in three days.

*Mad Dogs.*—Two men belonging to the London Docks,—one named Cook and the other Thornton—were last week bitten by dogs. The latter set off for a quack in Gloucestershire immediately, in order to take a pretended preventive—the other has had proper surgical aid. We would again ask, why are those dangerous and useless animals allowed to live?—There appears a lamentable apathy in the magistracy upon this point.

*Cure of Hydrophobia.*—The following has gone the round of the papers:—“ A poor man at Udine, the capital of Friul, who was attacked with hydrophobia, has been cured by drinking a quantity of vinegar, which was given him by mistake instead of another potion. Count Leonissa, physician at Padua, being informed of this cure, has tried the same remedy on a patient who was brought to the hospital of that city; he administered a pound of vinegar in the morning, another at noon, and a third in the evening; and this patient, it was stated, was speedily and effectually cured.” This case of curing by vinegar was reported five years ago in every paper, as no doubt the Editor, who now very properly brings it up again, can well testify. With regard to its reputed effects, we think we see no more effect in the use of vinegar than in any other fluid.—It is, we believe, altogether a hoax.—At the same time, let a trial not be refused: anything is worth trial in hydrophobia.



*Religious Fanatics.*—A Dutch paper contains the following article from Geneva, under the date of July 8th:—"Our Lunatic Asylum and our hospitals are filled with unhappy persons of both sexes, whom religious fanaticism had deprived of their senses. Of late years we have had to deplore several suicides proceeding from this species of madness, which

the faculty from constant experience consider as the most difficult to cure. Only a few days ago, a young man, whose imagination was struck by the discourses of a person lately converted to the Catholic religion, threw himself into the Rhine, when he escaped death only by a miracle."—*Public Ledger.*

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. B. is informed, that the Index to the First Volume of the Medical Adviser is now ready.

We defer our comments upon the case of E. Z. which appeared in No. 35, until our next.

TYRANNUS—Give warm baths at night, for two nights, and free the bowels by rhubarb and magnesia.

HAMPSTEAD appears to have recovered; however continue the drops a little longer.

C. H. must use an injection made with four ounces of water and a scruple of sulphate of zinc three times a-day.

We regret that T. N.'s favour is not sufficiently medical for insertion. It remains for him at our publishers.

J. A. who describes himself a young man of twenty, could not expect us to answer him publicly. Let him send an address and another description of his case.

N. L. must leave off the mixture—he is quite well. Let him keep from cold in the next winter.

CIVIS must go into the country.

A GIRL OF FIFTEEN.—You do not want a doctor—Do not endeavour to be melancholy, but go about and laugh at every thing—physic and all.

EDWARD M. should take a decoction of juniper berries for a month—one or two glasses in the day. If the pain return, let him apply the leeches.

OBADIAH is informed, that Sir C. Aldis is not a Quaker, except in the *hat*. He is, however, a *Quacker*. So was Brodum. They do not mean to attend the levee again; for which they are to be commended.

LAZARUS will find benefit from the vapour-bath.

B. 31, may leave off the medicine, but attend to the regimen advised.

GALEN is thanked—no surgeon could act more shameful—we have marked the gentleman. There are too many such.—Does he not live in Ha ton-garden, and is he not a man of about twenty-eight or thirty years of age, with a light, empty, and supercilious countenance?

A MOTHER.—Do not be alarmed; the child has only the weaning rash. Any respectable surgeon or apothecary will relieve it.

GOUT shall have our opinions before winter.

ELLEN.—Bathing will not serve her.

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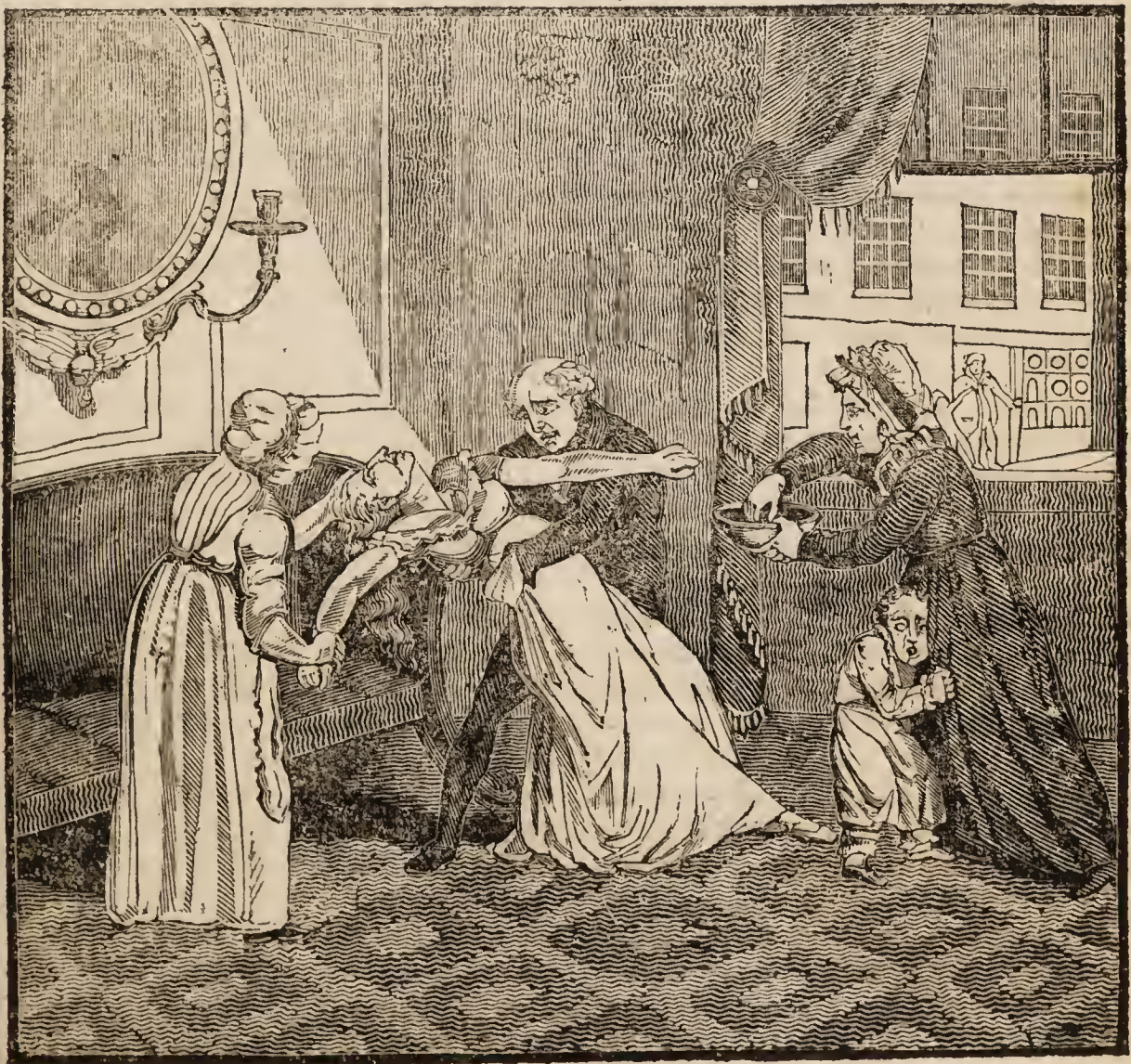
THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
 AND  
 GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 38.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF ISABELLA WILSON.

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## EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF ISABELLA WILSON.

ISABELLA WILSON was in early life a very promising child, and the object of her mother's idolatry. This good woman had no idea that health and beauty were more likely to be destroyed than improved or preserved by excessive care. In the choice of diet, clothes, exercise, &c. the delicacy of her sweet girl was always the ruling idea. It is easy, indeed, to render the human frame more delicate; but to make it more robust, requires a very different mode of proceeding.

As the child did not seem afflicted with any particular complaint, the doting mother exulted at the happy effects of her own management, and never thought that the taper form, the fine limbs, and the languishing softness, which she so much admired, were the sure symptoms of debility, and of latent disease.

Isabella's mental improvement, in which she surpassed many other girls of her age at the same school, was no less mistaken by her flattering parents. But she had scarcely attained her fourteenth year before the fond illusion vanished, and the regular functions of both mind and body were suspended by a fit of the most extraordinary nature. I cannot avoid making one remark here, which may be of practical utility, says Dr. Buchan. It is, that fits, though they go by different names, and are ascribed to a great variety of causes, may be all ranked under the general appellation of nervous affections, and are almost always the consequence of bad nursing, or injudicious treatment in childhood. Few children, properly nursed, have fits; and of those who are improperly managed, few escape them. Poor Bell Wilson was one of the unfortunate class.

On my being sent for to attend this young woman, who was then sixteen, I was informed that she had been subject to fits for about three years, and had taken a great deal of medicine by the advice of several of the faculty, but without

having experienced any benefit. Though the person who gave me this account made use of the word fits, I soon found that, strictly speaking, it was only one fit, that assumed two different forms or states, which followed one another in constant succession during the whole of the above period.

In order to give a precise idea of these singular kind of fits; the first I shall call active, and the second passive. During the former, the young woman made use of the most violent exertions, springing up, throwing her arms about, and striking them against every thing which came within her reach; at the same time, she uttered a sort of noise, consisting of three notes, which was more like the cry of some wild beast than any thing human.

An universal spasm succeeded those strange agitations, and every limb became as stiff and inflexible as if it had been suddenly petrified. Her whole appearance was that of a statue made of Parian marble. In this state of rigidity she continued sometimes for one hour, sometimes two, and often three or four; but the moment it was over, she began with the cry and motion above described.

The active convulsion never lasted so long as the rigid state; but it was the only time at which any thing could be got down her throat. As she would not admit substances of the least solidity into her mouth, the little nutriment which she received was always given in a fluid form, and chiefly consisted of small beer, or wine and water. Her evacuations, either by stool or urine, were of course very trifling, and she was wholly insensible of both. Notwithstanding the thinness of diet, she did not appear emaciated or ghastly; on the contrary, she was tolerably well in flesh, and her countenance, though quite void of colour, was rather pleasing. Her figure was exquisitely fine, the disease did not appear to have prevented her growth in height, though it had in strength, and in bulk or expansion; she was very slender, but as tall as most young women



of the same age. Such were the most striking peculiarities of her situation when I paid my first visit.

As all the voluntary motions were suspended, and the involuntary alone took place, I thought that by exciting the former I might suppress the latter, which had so long agitated the system. But before I had recourse to stimulants, I was induced, by the tone of confidence with which I had often heard anodynes and anti-spasmodics spoken of by professional men of eminence, to try them first; but the experiment, though fairly made, and duly persevered in, was not attended with the least success.—And here I must observe, that, after forty years farther practice, I have never found the effect of antispasmodics in such cases to correspond with the high reputation which they long retained in the medical world. I know it has been the usual method, when the action of the system appears to be inverted, to employ this class of medicines, in order to restore regularity, and to take off the supposed spasm. I am far from being inclined to question the veracity of the favourable reports made by others of the issue of their experiments; I candidly state the result of my own, which has wholly destroyed my reliance on that mode of proceeding.

After the failure of the above attempts, in which I was more guided by the example of others than by the dictates of my own mind, I resolved to try the effect of irritation on the most sensible parts, which were often rubbed with ether, and other volatile spirits. I prescribed at the same time the internal use of tonics, particularly chalybeated wine, and the compound tincture of bark. Appearances soon became favourable: but as the change for the better was slow, the parents were persuaded by somebody to try the cold bath; and this rash step proved almost fatal to my hopes, and to their fondest wishes.

The reader should be informed, that the astonishing singularity of the girl's disorder had filled the minds of the country people all

around, with the wildest and most superstitious conjectures. The general opinion was, that the complaint must be owing to evil spirits, and the girl was certainly possessed. Some were for putting her into water, where they were sure she would swim. Others said that, if she was laid upon the fire, she would undoubtedly fly up the chimney. One bold captain of horse, a man of more resolution than intellect, declared his readiness to expel the foul fiend by shooting the girl, if the parents would give him leave. Her mother, who was not deficient in natural good sense, though in the education of her daughter she had suffered her fondness to get the better of her understanding, paid no regard to such absurd and ridiculous proposals; but she yielded to the importunities of a friend, who had described with great earnestness and plausibility the wonderful effects of the cold bath.

A single immersion convinced the parents of their dangerous error. All the symptoms were aggravated in the most alarming manner. The duration of the rigid state of the body was extended from a few hours to eleven days. She would then have been buried had I not positively forbidden her mother, whatever might happen, to have her interred, till I should give my assent. At the time of this last attack I was upon a journey to a distant part of the country. On my return home, I was told that my patient was dead; but that her burial had been delayed till I should see her. When I called, I found her to all appearance what the people had described her, a lifeless corpse. On examining the body, however, I thought I perceived some degree of warmth about the region of the heart. This confirmed me in my previous design to make every attempt to restore animation. It was a considerable time before any symptoms of life appeared, at length the girl set up her old cry, and began to throw her arms about as usual.

After having so far succeeded, the parents implicitly followed my farther directions, and did not throw



any new obstacle in the way of a cure. I again had recourse to the tonics before mentioned, with such nourishment as the girl could be brought to swallow. The violence of the convulsive motions gradually abated, and the duration of the rigid state of the fit grew shorter and shorter; till, in about six months, the whole ceased, and the regular and natural actions of the system returned.

The state of the girl's mind, as well as of her body, on her recovery, was as extraordinary as her disease. It is common to all persons, who fall into fits, to have no remembrance of what happens during the paroxysm. This young woman not only was insensible of every occurrence and of the progress of time during her long fit, but her malady had completely blotted out all recollection of every event before that period, and even the traces of all knowledge which she had acquired from the moment of her birth to her illness. I have indeed known a single fit of twenty-four hours duration to destroy the powers of the mind, and produce absolute idiotism; but that was not the case here. The mental faculties, after a total suspension for four years, were not destroyed, but reduced to an infant state; and, though void of knowledge, were as capable of acquiring it as ever.

It was just the same with regard to speech, and to the proper management of the legs and arms, of which she knew as little at the time of her recovery as at the instant of her birth. Nothing could be more curious than to hear her lisping for some months the namby pamby of a child, and to trace her progress in the imitation of sounds, and the use of language. As soon as she could converse, she was told how long she had been ill; she cried, but could not believe it. When some books, which she had written at school, were shewn to her, she thought it impossible they could be hers, and was positive that the whole must be a mockery. In the course of time she yielded to the concurrent testimony of others;

but she remained unconscious of any former state of existence.

Her new attempts to walk, were as awkward as her attempts to speak; and she required nearly as much time to recover the perfect use of her legs as of her tongue. Even after she had acquired a considerable degree of strength, she wanted expertness in her motions, and was obliged to be led about by the arms like a baby. Whenever I called to see her, I made a point of taking her into the garden to walk with me; but it was with great difficulty that I could prevent her from falling. We often lament the weakness of infancy: yet were we to come full grown into the world, we should not only be as long in learning to walk as infants are, but our first essays would be infinitely more dangerous.

It is unnecessary to trace any farther the steps by which this young woman advanced to the full re-establishment of her health, and to the use of all her mental and corporeal faculties. These great ends were gained by a mode of treatment the very reverse of the enervating plan which had been the cause of her long suffering; but which, happily for her, was not afterwards resumed.

I shall leave tender parents to make their own reflections on this case, and shall now only urge it as a farther caution against the too hasty interment of persons who may seem to expire in a fit. Unequivocal proofs of death should always be waited for, and every advisable means of resuscitation persevered in, when we consider how long appearances may be deceitful, and how unexpectedly the latent sparks of life may be re-kindled.

Besides the uncommon instance of this young woman's reanimation, as it may be called, I have heard of a young lady in Holland, who was restored to her desponding friends, after she had been for nine days apparently in a state of death. The day before her proposed interment, her doctor called to take his final leave of her; but fancying that he



perceived some vital symptom, he renewed his before hopeless efforts, and had the happiness to succeed. This girl's case differed from that of my patient in one very remarkable particular. I am told, that in her seemingly inanimate state, she could not stir, nor speak, and that her only terror was lest she should be buried alive.

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*On violent Affections of the Mind  
being injurious to Health.*

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MAN is the subject of passion, the occurrences of a varied life call forth the workings of different passions; at times the love of fame has powerful command, at others the hero's renown is courted, and then anon the powerful sway of love subdues the soul. These are all proper, in degree, and beneficial in a measure; but when the passions have their full strength, when the very life and being of a man is wrapt up in the fulfilment of a certain object, when restless nights, and agitated days, rob them of their rest which nature requires, while every thought is engrossed, and every good disregarded, which does not aid the promotion of the desired object; neither caring for present blessings, nor for future contingencies; but in short, heedless and reckless of all and every thing, which does not in some manner or other forward the possession of what is the object of their passionate search, this must most assuredly be wrong; by so doing they neglect the good in their power, for untried delights, and push on in pursuit of gratifications which they may never obtain, and thus by a too ardent pursuit of an object, which their enthusiasm and an impassioned imagination, has painted as fit to be their sole desideratum, and which, after all, they may find the greatest evil of their lives; for instance, how often has the passion of love, taken so rooted a possession in their hearts, by cherishing and fostering it, before it is fully known whether it will meet with a reciprocal return, that upon discerning the coldness of those who inspired their es-

teem, it has driven to the greatest heights of desperation, embittered all their future life, brought accumulated sorrow on their heads, until the agitation of passion, the debilitating effects of sorrow, has brought on diseases which has baffled the physician's skill; consumptions and all the long train of chronic diseases, have probably followed, until at length they have paid the debt of nature in an earlier hour than otherwise might have been, but for their being the subjects of the inordinate and uncontrolled sway of the passion of love. Again, behold the passionate, angry man, he hates probably with deadly hate a rival, and a compeer; no matter in what, the passion is still the same; he boils with rage, the venom of his anger flows with unmitigated speed, he works himself up to the highest pitch of agonizing resentment; this affects his frame, the excitement of his passions and his spirits, are too much for the body to support, and as his passion swells, his envy and his hate, gains power; his flesh decays, it steals like poison through his frame; the growing wrath boils with dread vehemence, and exhausts his body; ending probably in a maddened brain, and a distempered system; he foams and raves, until a mad-house confinement ends his passionate career. Such are no common instances. The giving way too unguardedly to the passions, often has an injurious effect in the healths and happiness of man: who that reflects at all, would, for the gratification of passion, endure all the evils of ill health and the body's decay?—why permit an undue and inordinate affection, to take such deep root, as to mar happiness, and prevent the proper action of the mind upon the body, which is so requisite to health? Why not keep passion in due bounds?—then, should not success accompany the ardor of desire, no danger might be apprehended; a little reflection would set all right again; the ills which otherwise might attend, would flee away; grief, with all its unwelcome train of sorrows, might then in a



great measure be banished from the soul, and "light headed mirth," that necessary ingredient to the enjoyment of health, be plenteously enjoyed. Passion, be it of whatever kind it may, is sure to inflame and weaken, and lead to injury, not only as regards the mental welfare of man, but his health also; therefore we would urge the absolute necessity of keeping aloof from its power, by all such as would enjoy vigour of body, firmness and clearness of mind; let their progress through life be one even course of rational, and well-timed restraint upon their passions.

T. N.

#### SMALL POX AND VACCINATION.

As the public mind appears considerably agitated on the subject of the small pox, and its confidence shaken, in some instances, in the efficacy of the vaccine disease as a preventive, from the prevalence of the former disease as an epidemic; it may be attended with advantage, through the channel of the public papers, to state in a form intelligible to general readers, the several questions arising out of the subject, and to notice some erroneous views which have been taken by many of our citizens.

It is some time since the small pox first made its appearance this season. As it progressed, considerable emotion was produced by the occurrence of an eruptive disease amongst the vaccinated, and variolated, (the inoculated for the small pox,) which wore a general resemblance to ordinary small pox, but ran, in every instance, a mild and safe course. Much difference of opinion prevailed amongst physicians as to the precise nature of this mild form of the prevailing eruptive disease; some considering it essentially the same as small pox, but disarmed of its violence, while others contended that it was an aggravated form of chicken pox.

Whatever may eventually be proved to be the essential nature of the milder disease, it is sufficiently

evident, that it is the same affection with that which prevailed some years ago in Edinburgh, and which has been accurately described, under the name of varioloid, in a work of a Scotch physician of the name of Thompson. Without attempting to go fully into the subject of the identity or non identity of this affection with the small pox, it is convenient, nevertheless, to designate it by some name; and as the term varioloid, from its etymology, simply implies "like small pox," which the prevalent mild eruptive disease confessedly is, no inconvenience can be experienced by adopting it, and its appositeness cannot be affected by the final disposal of the question of its essential nature.

It has been supposed by some, that vaccination in subjects who have been affected by varioloid, must have been unsuccessful or spurious; and by others, that the vesicle, though genuine, is utterly inoperative on the system. Now both these suppositions are equally removed from the truth; for, in the first case, if the vaccination be spurious, and in the second case, though genuine, yet inoperative, why does not ordinary small pox occur?

Both the inferences above given, of unsuccessful or inoperative genuine vaccination, from the occurrence of varioloid, rest upon the opinion that this disease is essentially small pox; and admitting this supposition to be the most reasonable, it must be evident how erroneous they are. For if the vaccination be unsuccessful or spurious, why does a mild safe small pox occur; and if it be contended, that, though genuine, it is inoperative, why does it moderate so wonderfully the danger of the disease? These views cannot be questioned, unless indeed it should be contended by some, that a spurious vaccination leaves the system in a middle state, in which, though not secured from small pox, it is liable only to a mild form of it; a supposition by no means reasonable.

It has already been stated that



the varioloid disease occurs in the variolated, as well as in the vaccinated; and the same train of reasoning, which proves vaccination genuine in such cases, is equally decisive of the genuineness of variolation.

A question, which has interested many families, has been, whether it is necessary to repeat vaccination. This measure has been defended on several grounds.

1. The original vaccination may have been spurious.

2. Though regular in its appearance, it may have been merely a local disease, without impressing the system generally.

3. Its protecting influence may have disappeared by the lapse of years.

As to the first ground, it must be decided by the evidence of a person capable of discriminating the true from the spurious vesicle, or the distinct recollection of the decision of such a person. If the least doubt was originally expressed, or if the vaccination had been done by an individual not of the medical profession, it ought to be assayed again.

As, to the second reason, it must be admitted, that some physicians have supposed this case sometimes to occur, where no indisposition has been perceptible during the progress of the vaccine vesicle. Admitting the possibility of its occurrence, it must be very rare; and it would be a refinement of caution to re-vaccinate all subjects in whom no symptom of general indisposition had been noticed, the vaccine vesicle itself having progressed through all its stages with perfect regularity.

The third ground for repeating vaccination that it constitutes a security against small pox for from five to seven years only, appears completely untenable, and unsupported by any facts or analogies.

From what has been already said, in disproof of the idea, that the genuineness of vaccination is impeached by the subsequent occurrence of varioloid, it must be evident that, as the cases for a second vaccination are those only in which the first was of doubtful regularity; so the motive for the trial is protec-

tion from ordinary small-pox, and not from varioloid.

Parents singularly misapprehend the nature of the question here; for observing an eruptive disease, admitted to be like small-pox, and by some physicians called small-pox to occur amongst the vaccinated in some families, they immediately conclude that vaccination, in all such instances, has been inefficiently performed; and, without advert-ing to the very improbable supposition which they make, that in so many persons inferred to have been unprotected, and therefore under like circumstances with those who have never been vaccinated, there should occur a mild disease called varioloid, and not genuine small-pox, they insist upon having vaccination indiscriminately repeated. Is it not much more probable, that the very occurrence of varioloid in vaccinated subjects, proves the genuineness of the vaccination? For had it not been genuine, the same causes would probably have produced a true small-pox.

This remark leads to the question of the identity of small pox and varioloid; and on this subject there appears to be a large portion, if not a majority of the physicians of this city, who hold, that the two diseases are produced by the same specific contagion, which affecting unprotected persons produces genuine small pox, and operating on the vaccinated or variolated, is modified and controlled so as to produce varioloid, or a modified small pox.

This view is supported by many obvious facts, as the prevalence of the two diseases at the same time, the milder disease occurring amongst the vaccinated and variolated, while the ordinary small pox has attacked the unprotected. Besides, there have not been wanting observations, which make it probable that the vaccinated and variolated have taken varioloid from exposure to genuine small pox, and vice versa, the unprotected true small pox, from varioloid cases.

Admitting for a moment the supposition of identity, it must be acknowledged as a difficulty, that vaccination and variolation should have furnished protection for so many years, against all forms of small pox,



and that during the prevalence of small-pox as an epidemic within the few last years, it has failed to preserve from a modified affection, having resemblance to this formidable disease. It may be stated, however, as a probable explanation, that the small pox in such years possesses peculiar force and virulence, which enable it to attack protected persons, in a modified form, when in ordinary years it would pass such persons untouched.

The next questions of importance which arise in this examination, are, has the public reason to allow its confidence in vaccination to be shaken? is there reason for resorting again to variolation, or inoculation for the small pox.

To both these questions the answer is, unequivocally, no. If vaccination has not done all that its friends expected from it, still its comparative merits are such as to deserve confidence. Comparing the merits of the two methods of securing the system, in the first step, vaccination has a decided advantage. While it is supposed that one individual in a hundred dies of inoculated small pox, vaccination is never fatal. After causing a waste of life equal to 1 per cent, variolation is not considered to protect in more cases against varioloid or modified small pox, than vaccination does. It requires a careful observation of facts to determine this fact correctly, but the writer can state from the best authority, that about as many cases of varioloid after variolation, as after vaccination, have been admitted in the Small Pox Hospital connected with the Alms-house. Finally, in making a comparative estimate of the advantages of the two preventives, this striking observation of Dr. Thompson must be borne in mind, that while this physician lost only one case in 225 of varioloid after vaccination, the proportion of deaths occurring from the same disease as of variolation, is stated by him to be as great as one in 25.

The facts stated, and the particular views taken in the foregoing remarks, may be summed up in the following propositions:

1. That the eruptive disease at pre-

sent prevailing, is in part genuine small pox, and in part a disease somewhat similar, which is mild and runs a safe course, variously called small pox, modified small pox, varioloid, horn pox, and aggravated chicken pox.

2. That the ordinary small pox occurs in unprotected subjects, while the modified disease attacks the vaccinated and inoculated.

3. That the occurrence of varioloid in the protected, so far from throwing doubt on the genuineness of a previous vaccination or variolation, is rather in proof of its genuineness.

4. That no purpose can be answered by essaying a second vaccination, unless there is doubt of the successful nature of the first; and its only object can be to protect the system from genuine Small Pox, and not from varioloid.

5. That there is no foundation in the belief that the protecting influence of vaccination is limited to a term of years.

6. That Small Pox and varioloid arise from the same specific contagion, producing the former in unprotected persons, and the latter in the vaccinated and inoculated.

7. That the specific contagion of both diseases, produces either indifferently, the particular disease being determined by the circumstance of protection or absence of protection in the system attacked.

8. That vaccination and variolation in ordinary years are complete protections from all forms of Small Pox; but that in particular years, probably from the force and virulence of the small pox, systems, ordinarily secured, are liable to a safe form of the disease.

9. That there is no ground for a loss of confidence in vaccination, or necessity for resorting to variolation, the comparative merits of the former as a preservative from small pox, being rather increased than diminished by recent observations.

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## CAUSES OF DREAMS.

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THE causes of our most common



dreams have, during our waking hours, an inferior influence in rendering more vivid the states of the mind. They are, for instance, connected with such trivial affections as indigestion, or with the remissions of inflammatory or febrile attacks, where a repose, more or less disturbed by visions, is afforded to the wearied frame. In sleep, therefore, such causes have little power in increasing the vividness of sensations. For, it is but too evident, that if the organs of sense were capable of being affected by slight stimuli, our states of repose, which are so important to the functions of assimilation, would be materially interrupted. Ideas, however, which are more removed from the enfeebling influence of sleep, are, in a greater degree, liable to be affected by causes, that impart to our mental affections various degrees of vividness.

I shall now observe, that when, by some cause affecting the state of the circulation, the ideas of imperfect sleep have been excited to a certain degree of vividness, the mind then acquires a knowledge of the present and the past, and of its own identity; or, in other words, consciousness begins, and with it the state of dreaming. It will, therefore, be a very interesting research to ascertain what may be the modifications which the usual phenomena of the mind undergo, from the operation of those laws that more immediately relate to consciousness.

We must once more recall our attention to the principle so fully demonstrated, that the usual comparative degree of vividness which subsists between sensations and ideas, alone suggests the notion of *present* and *past* time; the more vivid feeling being considered as *present*, and the less vivid feeling, or idea, being contemplated as *past*. This law, in fact, continues to operate, after renovated feelings alone have become the subject of consciousness. When, therefore, it is considered, that ideas of themselves partake of various degrees of vividness, it must be evident that in our dreams the more vivid idea would be contemplated as a *present* feeling, while the least vivid one would be considered as *past*. By this means,

various recollected images of the mind protrude themselves, as it were, from the train of thought going on, and though fainter than sensations, have still the power of suggesting a false conviction of actual impressions.

In reference to the same law of consciousness may be explained the illusions of those spectral impressions which occur during our waking hours. That principle in our nature by which mental feelings of various degrees of vividness suggest a notion of the present and of the past, is continually influencing the mind; hence, the moment that ideas become more vivid than sensations, they are contemplated as present, or as actual impressions, while the least vivid feeling suggests the notion of past time.

The partial resemblance of spectral impressions to dreams will now, I trust, be sufficiently apparent. There is still a difference to be noticed in the circumstances under which they are severally produced. Before spectral impressions can arise, the vivid ideas of our waking hours must be raised to an unusually high degree of intensity; but during our moments of mental repose, a very slight degree of vividness imparted to the faint ideas of perfect sleep, is sufficient to excite a similar illusion. Hence, the images of spectral impressions differ from those of dreams in being much more vivid.

Not unfrequently, however, it happens, that an exciting cause may so gradually, yet powerfully operate upon the ideas of our dreams, as to make them more than usually intense. It must follow then, that in this peculiar state, they will be with difficulty distinguishable from the spectral impressions of ecstasies or trances. This is accordingly the case; nor can the difference between a sleeping or a waking dream be often well determined by any inquiry we may institute, if the illusion supervened to a state of absolute sleep or of watchfulness. An instance of this uncertain species of phantasms is contained in the narrative translated by Dr. Crichton, from the *Psychological Magazine* of Germany, relative to a female who was subject to trances. She is the narrator of her own case; and, after describing



some cruel usage she experienced from her husband, which much affected the quality of her spectral impressions, she thus proceeds:—"My sorrows increased, and I went to bed in tears. I awakened about four o'clock in the morning, and imagined myself in my father's house on the river Diele. I looked up into heaven, and saw a water-dog walking in the firmament. As soon as it passed by, the skies descended to me, and my eyes were changed on purpose to see new sights, for I saw many hundred thousand miles. The mansion of God stood in the centre, lightly enveloped in clear blue clouds, and surrounded with a splendour of such various colours as are unknown to the world below. In each colour stood some millions of men, enrobed in garments of the same colour with that in which they stood; for instance, those who stood in red were clad in red, and those in the yellow had robes of yellow; and the faces of all these men were turned to the mansion of the Almighty: and there came out of the mansion a most lovely female, clothed in the brightest lustre of heaven, and a crown on her head. She was accompanied by three angels, one on her right hand, and one on her left, the third walked beside her, and pointed on the crowd who stood in the splendid colours.

"In a minute the heavens were closed, and again opened as formerly, but the woman and angels were not to be seen; but our blessed Saviour came out of the mansion, followed by a long train of attendants, and he descended through all the splendour I have described. The Lord and his attendants all looked smilingly upon me. They were dressed in white, and wherever they went was a clear white. When he approached me near enough, that I could touch his foot, I was frightened and awoke. It was then half-past four o'clock; I arose, and considered that my present life was not to be compared with such joys."

With regard to the foregoing illusion, it is impossible to say whether it was a very vivid dream or a trance; most probably it was the former. The distinction, however, is of little consequence, as the same causes which contribute to the spectral impressions

of our waking visions may produce intense dreams.

Another authentic story, respecting which there is a doubt whether it is the narrative of a lively dream or of a waking illusion, is to be found in *Bovet's Pandæmonium, or the Devil's Cloyster*. The writer first informs us, that about the year 1667, "he was with some persons of honor in the house of a nobleman in the west country, which had formerly been a nunnery;" he then continues his narrative after the following manner:—"I must confess I had often heard the servants and others that inhabited or lodged there, speak much of the noises, stirs, and apparitions, that frequently disturbed the house, but had at that time no apprehensions of it; for the house being full of strangers, the nobleman's steward, Mr. C., lay with me in a fine wainscoat room, called my lady's chamber. We went to our lodging pretty early, and having a good fire in the room, we spent some time in reading, in which he much delighted; then having got into bed, and put out the candles, "we observed the room to be very light, by the brightness of the moon, so that a wager was laid between us, that it was possible to read written hand by that light upon the bed where we lay. Accordingly, I drew out of my pocket a manuscript, which he read distinctly in the place where he lay. We had scarcely made an end of discoursing about that affair, when" [here probably commenced a dream], "I saw (my face being towards the door, which was locked) entering into the room, five appearances of very fine and lovely women; they were of excellent stature, and their dresses seemed very fine, but covered all but their faces with their light veils, whose skirts trailed largely on the floor. They entered in a file, one after the other, and in that posture walked round the room, till the foremost came and stood by that side of the bed where I lay, with my left hand over the side of the bed; for my head rested on that arm, and I determined not to alter the posture in which I was. She struck me upon that hand with a blow that felt very soft, but I did never re-



member whether it were cold or hot. I demanded, in the name of the blessed Trinity, what business they had there, but received no answer. Then I spoke to Mr. C., Sir, do you see what fair guests are here come to visit us? before which they all disappeared. I found him in some kind of agony, and was forced to grasp him on the breast with my right hand (which was next him underneath the bedclothes) before I could obtain speech of him. Then he told me, that he had seen the fair guests I spoke of, and had heard me speak to them; but withal said, that he was not able to speak sooner unto me, being extremely affrighted at the sight of a dreadful monster, which, assuming a shape between that of a lion and a bear, attempted to come upon the bed's foot. I told him I thanked God nothing so frightful had presented itself to me; but I hoped, through his assistance, not to dread the ambages of hell."

Of these visions, the subject of which may be attributable to the popular superstitions of the Old Manor-House, little doubt can be entertained but that by fear, and perhaps by other physical causes, they were impressed on the mind during a dream. It appears, that during the next night, the companion of Bovet, from dread, forsook the haunted room, so that the hero was left by himself to encounter the apparitions. "I ordered," he adds, "a bible and another book to be laid in the room, and resolved to spend my time by the fire in reading and in contemplation, till I found myself inclined to sleep; and accordingly, having taken leave of the family at the usual hour, I addressed myself to what I had proposed, not going into bed till past one in the morning. A little after I was got into bed, I heard somewhat walk about the room, like a woman in a tabby gown trailing about the room. It made a mighty rustling noise, but I could see nothing, though it was near as light as the night before. It passed by the foot of the bed, and a little opened the curtains, and thence went to a closet door on that side, through which it found admittance, although it was close locked. There it seemed to groan, and to draw a great chair with its foot, in which it seemed to

sit, and turn over the leaves of a large folio, which, you know, make a loud clattering noise. So it continued in that posture, sometimes groaning, sometimes dragging the chair, and clattering the book till it was near day: afterwards I lodged several times in this room, but never met with any molestation."

Regarding this latter apparition, Dr. Ferriar is inclined to think, that it did not occur during a dream, but that it was a proper waking illusion. This supposition is, however, very doubtful, as the spectral impression ensued after the ghost-seer had found himself inclined to sleep.

### EXTRAORDINARY OPERATION.

LAST week was performed at the General Hospital Ship, Sheerness, by Mr. Robinson the Surgeon, the amputation of the thigh by the double flap operation, *without the use of the Tournequet*; as recommended by Mr. Liston, of Edinburgh. Mr. R. also employed the dissecting forceps to secure the arteries, as Mr. L. has long recommended and practised with extraordinary success. The operation did not occupy longer than one minute and a half, and not six ounces of blood were lost! The pain to the patient, was of course comparatively trifling. This is the first time we believe that this operation has been so performed on this side of the Tweed. We have no doubt it will soon become universal, as it only requires to be once seen, to convince every man possessed of brains enough to be capable of being convinced by reason, that the operation by the double incision as practised at present, is barbarous and unscientific, and that the *tournequet* only serves to distort the limb, and mislead the surgeon, as to the formation of the flaps.

### *Danger of Lundyfoot's Snuff.*

WE have seen a case of diseased lungs occasioned by this snuff. The patient describes his complaint to have arisen from the fine particles passing into the wind-pipe. We recommend a mixture of No. 37 with this snuff.



## THE EAR.

THE direct application of the ear to the breast, to discover by means of sound, the presence of certain diseases, was recommended by Hippocrates himself; but the operation in its nature, indelicate and disgusting, after all, furnished so little information, that it was never much employed.

In 1810, Mr. Laennec was consulted for a young woman, who had general symptoms of disease of the heart, and in whom the common modes of ascertaining its nature was not applicable on account of her corpulence. The age and sex of the patient did not permit the direct application of the ear, as advised by Hippocrates, and M. Laennec, recollecting the common acoustical phenomenon, that if the ear be applied at one end of a plank, the scratch of a pin at the other is distinctly heard, conceived that advantage might be taken of this property in such a case. He accordingly took up a quire of paper, and forming of it a very tight roll, he was agreeably surprised to find, that when he applied one end to the region of the heart and the other to the ear, he heard the pulsations of the heart, much more distinctly and clearly, than he had ever been able to observe them with the ear directly applied. After this discovery, he employed himself incessantly in making observations, and in attempting to improve his instrument.

The one which M. Laennec found, after many trials, to answer best, was a cylinder of wood, about an inch and a half in diameter, and a foot long, pierced longitudinally with a hole three lines in diameter, the hole being widened at one end, in the form of a funnel, to the depth of about an inch and a half, and nearly the whole diameter of the cylinder, with a pierced conical stopper fitting this aperture, and which when introduced, converts the whole instrument into a pierced cylinder. For some purposes, the instrument is used with, and for some without the stopper. For con-

venience Laennec divides it by a joint in the middle, and he furnishes the stopper with a short tube of copper: but these are not essential.

It is used by holding it as we do a pen in the fingers, and near to the stoppered end, which is then applied firmly and fairly upon the parts of the chest we wish to examine, while the ear of the observer is laid close upon the other end. Nothing more is necessary, except that, in some cases where the surface of the chest is very unequal, the space between any part of the circumference of the instrument, and the part of the chest to which it is applied, is to be filled up with cotton, or some soft substance. All external noises must be carefully guarded against, especially those caused by rubbing the instrument with the fingers, or against the clothes of the patient; and when the voice is to be investigated with a view to pectoriloquism, the patient must be directed to turn away his mouth.

One great advantage of this means of explaining the diseases of the chest, is, that it neither fatigues nor offends the delicacy of the patient, as the intervention of their clothing scarcely impairs the distinctness of the results.

The organic phenomena, to the examination of which the stethoscope is adapted, are,

1. The action of the heart, for examining which, the stopper is used. When one end of the instrument is applied to the region of the heart, and the other end to the ear, we perceive distinctly the alternate contractions of the auricles and ventricles. By the proper application of the stethoscope to the præcordia, two kinds of impression may be received, which it is not always easy to distinguish; the one a mere mechanical impulse, communicated by the cylinder to the ear, and produced by the point of the heart striking against the ribs; when the ventricles contract, and synchronous with the pulse, and the other a double sound, one duller and slower, accompanying the contraction of the



ventricles, and the other, sharper and quicker, which is that of the auricles.

2. The sound produced in the lungs during respiration, for the investigation of variations, which cannot be ascertained in any other way. For this purpose it is used without the stopper.

3. Pectoriloquism, or the transmission of the voice through the parietes, or sides of the chest, in certain affections of the lungs. This discovery was made by Laennec, to a certain degree, by accident, for he was first struck with it, when causing a patient to speak while he was examining her lungs by the stethoscope. After this, he did not rest till he had discovered the cause of it.

### BEAUTY.

#### *On restoring Colour to the Face.*

THERE is nothing more common in great cities than pale faces. What is the cause? In nine cases out of ten they arise from city habits, late suppers, sitting up till one or two in the morning, lying long in bed, irregular living, want of good air, want of exercise, and the use of cosmetics. Let any young lady who has become pale adopt the following plan, and she will soon recover the natural glow and colour of her face.

1st. Let her go to bed at ten o'clock—nine if she pleases. She must not grumble because she may not sleep for the first night or two, and may lie ruminating on the nocturnal pleasures she has thus cut herself off from, but persist steadily for a few nights, when she shall find that habit will produce as happy a sleep as that which followed a late ball.

2nd. Let her arise about six o'clock in summer, and about eight in winter, immediately brush her mouth well with a tooth-brush, and cold water, then take a table spoonful of the following mixture:

Of decoction of bark, six ounces.

Of tincture of bark, one ounce.

Of diluted sulphuric acid, one drachm.

Mix—after which, breakfast within an hour.

3d. Her breakfast should be something more solid than a cup of trashy tea, a thin slice of bread and butter. She should take an egg or two, or a little cold meat, or a cup of chocolate.

4th. She should not sit reading romances all day by the fire, or indulge herself with thinking upon the perfidy of false swains, or the despair of a pining damsel, but bustle about, walk, or ride, or make puddings; and when she feels hungry, eat a mutton chop or a custard with a glass of wine.

5th. Let her dine upon mutton or beef without fat, but she need not turn away occasionally from a fowl or any thing equally as good; only observe to drink but little during dinner.

6th. She must not take three or four cups of tea, but one or two, and pretty strong at about two hours after dinner.

7th. Let her eat a custard for supper, or a few oysters, or a bason of sago and wine, or any light thing of the kind, and then in a little time after let her go to bed.

8th. Let her read if she will read—no die-away love tales, but humorous works, so as to keep the mind unincumbered with heavy thoughts.

9th. Let her take a cup of senna tea, or fifteen grains of Rhubarb, or one or two of the family pills mentioned in an early number of the "Medical Adviser," in such a way as to have a motion every day—this last is indispensable to obtain a clear and wholesome colour.

### CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

[WE are obliged to the writer of this letter for his good opinions. We always thought Eady too contemptible to reply seriously to. We published his abusive pamphlet in the MEDICAL ADVISER, as the best censure that could be given to him.—ED.]

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

BEING a subscriber to your valuable publication, having troubled you with my queries, and received from it service, which I might



naturally expect from it or any publication of a similar nature, I think myself called upon to take a part in combatting with a society of men, whom neither interest nor fear has made you shrink from exposing. I shall not trouble myself with pointing out the false rhythms of the ridiculous, I may say of the disgraceful scribble which Eady has opened against you, and which, by the by, had I seen chalked up against the street wall, I should have thought much better placed, than in the writings of men, who, in the very same writing are upbraiding a fellow member for the impropriety of his language; nor shall I undertake to refer the writer whence the major part of his mean composition is extracted.

On the first and hasty perusal, I fancied that I must have seen the same piece before, I immediately referred to the place where I expected to find it, and lo! I discovered the filch.

Now being unacquainted with Eady, not knowing whether to give him the appellation of Mr. or Dr. or in plainer terms, being ignorant whether he is a quack, or an authorized professor, I take the liberty of informing him that the sales-man of the M. S. is actionable; but perhaps Eady will not be able to substantiate this action against his composer, on account of his being unable to discover where he has committed his piracies. However, if this be the case, Sir, if Eady will address a letter to you, for me, I do not doubt, that he may depend upon it being faithfully delivered, and I will tell him where he will find the identical expressions and sentiments.

On the value of the "Medical Ad-

viser," a few words may be necessary for the quacks—not to the public—they are, at least many of them, practically acquainted with the beneficial results that have been derived from it. Indeed, can anything else be expected,—perhaps the only publication of the kind in the kingdom; a medium of communicating any discovery in the medical science; of information of the proceedings of the various schools of medicine, and calling the attention of medical professors, of every part of the kingdom to any one's particular necessities; independent of the many salutary reflexions for the preservation of the health, advice for different situations, and above all the spirit which it continually shews in endeavouring to suppress a sect of people, a disgrace to the country, *Quacks*. How often have I seen it point out to the legislature the imperious necessity of extirpating this baneful band. Let any person survey the country, in fact let him only preserve the pages of your publication, and let him then be asked whether the abominable system of quackery is tenable. He will instantly express a surprise that such a number of impostors and destroyers of the health of the people are suffered to remain in a well regulated country. In concluding, Sir, I, in the name of the community at large, have to beg that you will continue at war with the vile impostors. Remember that you are fighting for the cause of humanity, and be aware that the number of ignorant people is small, who will not proffer you that tribute of respect, with which I have the honour to be yours respectfully,

E. Z.

Sheffield.





## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

NORTON, THE WHIP AND SPUR DOCTOR.

BEFORE we enter upon the necessary observations which this wretched quack justly deserves, we beg to present our readers with his hand-bill.

NORTON'S HAND-BILL:—

“ADVICE GRATIS,

“*From Four to Seven o’Clock in the Evening.*

“**DR. NORTON,**

“LATE OF THE ROYAL NAVY,

“No. 6, LONDON TERRACE,

“*Opposite Great Cambridge-street,*

“HACKNEY ROAD, LONDON.

“A Medical Practitioner, of regular education, who earnestly recommends his hitherto unparalleled mode of practice. He has cured and relieved some thousands of persons within the last few years, numbers of whom were thought incurable, or dismissed from hospitals. Without the *empty boasting of empirical vanity*, but arguing upon facts abundantly proved, he will venture to say, that no one, whom *he judges* curable, will ever apply to him without finding immediate relief and speedy cure. The doctor may be consulted, when this bill is called for, in Scorbutic Disorders, from the slightest acrimony to the most malignant corruption and dissolution of the blood and humours, which will be subdued with great certainty: he has cured many in whom the disease had degenerated into an universal and confirmed leprosy, in which, from cracks in the skin, a gummy, but extremely hot and acid matter issued, and from which a *frightful quantity of scabs* and white powdery scurf have appeared. These cases, and all slighter, such as heats and redness in the face, all cutaneous or scrofulous habits, heats and colds (arising from drinking cold water when very hot,) he generally cures with little difficulty, and no confinement; also all cases of the Rheumatism, Scald Heads, Ulcerated Legs, &c. by his new mode of treatment.”

*Then follows a flaming account of his Nervous Elixir, pectoral balsam, pills, washes, &c. with virtues that none have ever equalled since Adam was a boy, and concludes with*

“The doctor may be consulted upon the following diseases, namely, nervous and bilious complaints, inward weakness, and debilitated or shattered constitutions; also, every species of scrofulous disorders, such as leprosy, king’s evil, strumas, fistulas, piles, inflammations in the eyes, cancers, rheumatism, rheumatic gout, ulcerated legs, and wounds in any part of the body; eruptions, fevers, stone and gravel, ulcers in the kidneys, asthmas, consumptions, and every other disorder to which the human frame is subject.”

The mode which this fellow takes to gull the public is this; he goes his rounds of the outskirts of London, particularly Hackney. Mile-end, and the Commercial-road, and Limehouse: here he attacks every house, *booted and spurred*, with a bundle of bills in his hand, and his assistant at his rear, with a book ready to take down every poor wretch who is foolish



enough to give the name. He rings the bell or he knocks at the door of the *intended devoted*, and having bowed and looked *quandum sufficit*, he *hands* in one of his bills, assuring the person who takes it, that he is a surgeon of the navy, and that he has served twenty years in that service, that he can cure all complaints mentioned in the aforesaid bill, *and that having come to reside in the neighbourhood*, he will be most happy to attend them, &c. &c. &c.

The rascal was a *cook* in the royal navy, a most ignorant, stupid, and impudent brute, more fit to drive bullocks than to administer medicine; and we are sure had he been bred to that appropriate calling, he would now be punished by Martin's act.

He is the worst of all the quacks.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*London Quackery.*—On Saturday last, one of those ingenious decorators employed by the quacks of the metropolis to blazon their names and designations throughout the kingdom with whiting, charcoal, &c. made his appearance in this city, accompanied by an agent or representative of one of the most renowned of them. About five o'clock in the morning he commenced operations, and before eight every wall between the top of English-street and Stanwix was embellished with enormous white characters, above a foot in length. Thus far our diligent adventurer met with no obstruction; but as all human pursuits are subject to contingency, so it

happened with this itinerant shoe-black, who in the midst of his career received a morning salute from one of the city constables, and was soon after introduced to the magistrates at the police office. Here he received a suitable reprimand, and was compelled to deposit 5l. until he retraced his steps, and effaced the greater part of the splendid inscriptions with which his impudent industry had ornamented the city. His money was then returned, and he and his worthy companion took their departure, to practice their honourable calling were it could be exercised with more impunity. We understand that these public pests have lately traversed the principal towns of Scotland, defacing the walls in their progress, without having been once obstructed; which from the well-known vigilance of the police in that country, is rather remarkable. It is hoped, however, that this public notice of the salutary check they have experienced in Carlisle, will induce the authorities in other towns to give them a similar reception.—*Carlisle Journal*.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE report of the fight between Goss and Co. will appear if possible in our next.

An inquirer is informed that this "Doctor" Fearman, who wrote the long letter to the MORNING HERALD a few days ago, about his "cure" for the hydrophobia, keeps a sort of an apothecary's shop at Norwich; yet he signs M. D.—can't he see through it. We know the powdered little gentleman. In making such a statement as he has done, he ought to have got a certificate from some reputable medical man at Norwich.

We have to correct an error we made in a former number in stating that our index was to be delivered *gratis*.—It was a mistake.

Private letters were answered yesterday.—Many favours are received.

Want of room obliges us to defer a long list of answers.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

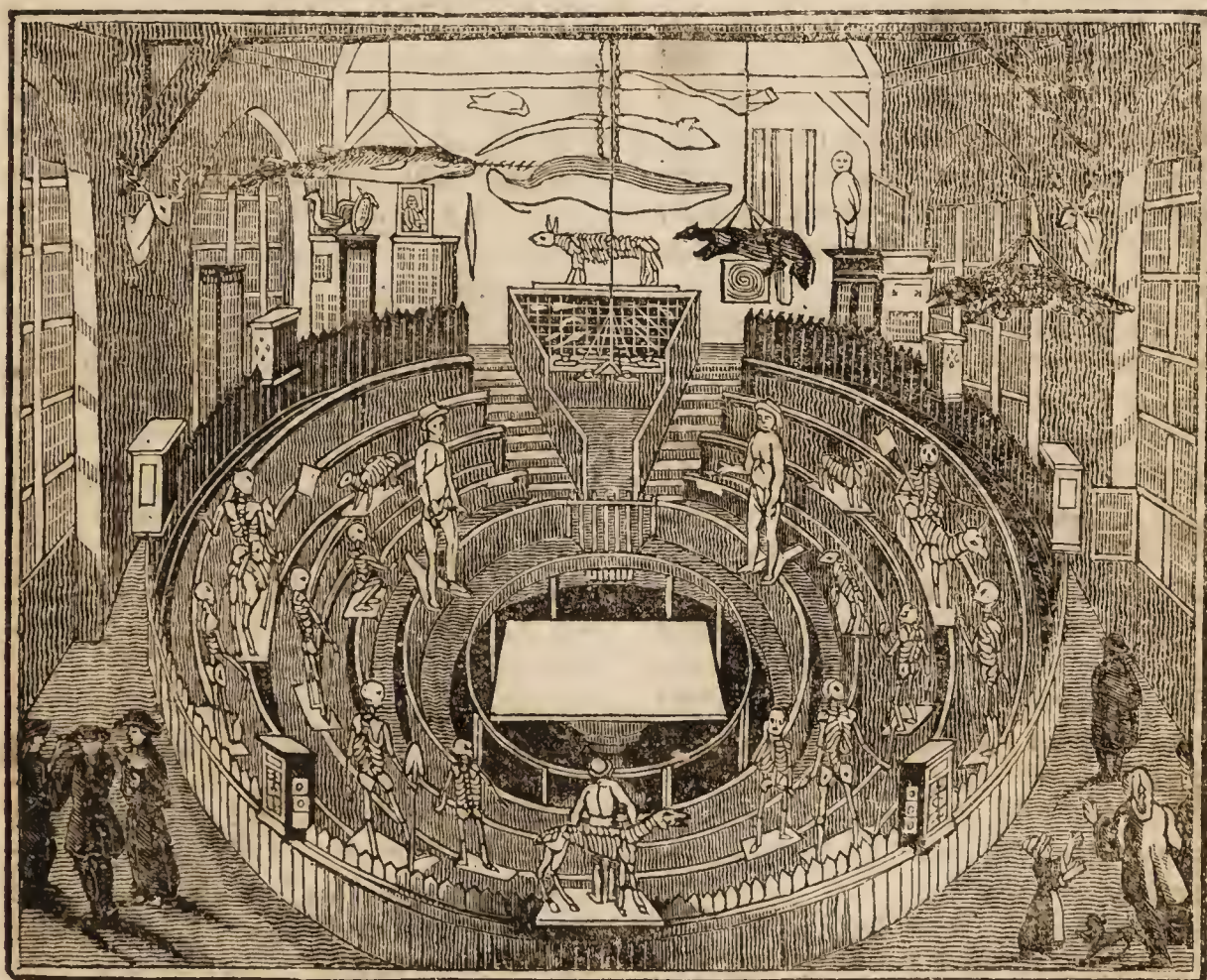
## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 39.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



THE OLD THEATRE OF ANATOMY AT LEYDEN.

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## HYDROPHOBIA.

[The papers have lately mentioned, as a cure for this disease, the cutting out of small pustules which appear beneath the tongue. We now lay before our readers the article which gave rise to it, and which appeared in No. 74, of the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal.]

*A Mode of Cure of the Effects of the Bite of a Mad Dog, used in the Ukraine.*

WHEN Mr. Marochetti, an operator in the hospital at Moscow, was in the Ukraine in 1813, in one day fifteen persons applied to him for cure, having been bitten by a mad dog. Whilst he was preparing the remedies, a deputation of several old men made its appearance, to request him to allow a peasant to treat them, a man who had for some years past enjoyed a great reputation for the prevention of hydrophobia, and of whose success Dr. Marochetti had already heard much.

He consented to their request, under these conditions:—First, that he (Mr. Marochetti) should be present at every thing done by the peasant; secondly, in order that he might be fully convinced that the dog was really mad, he, Mr. Marochetti, should select one of the patients, who should only be treated according to the medical course usually held in estimation. A girl of six years old was chosen for this purpose.

The peasant gave to his fourteen patients a strong “Decoct.” of the “Summit.” and “Fl. Genistæ lutæ Tinctoriæ,” (about a pound and a half daily), and examined twice a-day under the tongues, where, as he stated, small knots containing the poison of the madness must form themselves. As soon as these small knots actually appeared, which Mr. Marochetti himself saw, they were opened, and cauterised with a red hot needle, after which the patient gargled with the decoction of the “genista.” The result of this treatment was, that all of them (of whom only two, the last bitten, did not shew these knots) were dismissed

cured at the end of six weeks, during which time they drank this decoction. But the little girl who had been treated according to the usual methods, was seized with hydrophobic accidents on the seventh day, and was dead in eight hours after they first took place. The persons dismissed were seen three years afterwards by Mr. Marochetti, and they were all sound and well.

Five years after this circumstance (in 1818), Mr. Marochetti had a new opportunity in Podolia of confirming this important discovery. The treatment of twenty-six persons, who had been bitten by a mad dog, was confided to him; nine were men, eleven women, and six children. He gave them at once a decoction of the “Genista,” and a diligent examination of their tongues gave the following result:—Five men, all the women, and three children had the small knots already mentioned; those most bitten on the third day, others on the fifth, seventh, and ninth, and one woman, who had been bitten but very superficially in the leg, only on the twenty-first day. The other seven also, who shewed no small knots, drank the “Decoctum Genistæ” six weeks, and all the patients recovered.

In consequence of these observations, Mr. Marochetti believes, that the hydrophobic poison, after remaining a short time in the wound, fixes itself for a certain time under the tongue, at the openings of the ducts of the submaxillary glands, which are at each side of the tongue-string, and there forms those small knots, in which may be felt with a probe a fluctuating fluid, which is the hydrophobic poison. The usual time of their appearance seems to be within the third and ninth day after the bite; and if they are not opened within the first twenty-four hours after their formation, the poison is re-absorbed into the body, and the patient is lost beyond the power of cure.

For this reason, Mr. Marochetti recommends, that such patients should be examined under the tongue immediately, which should



be continued for six weeks, during which time they should take daily one pound and a half of the "Decoct. Gentist." (or four times a day the powder, one drachm pro dosi.") If the knots do not appear in this time, no madness is to be apprehended; but as soon as they appear, they should be opened with a lancet, and then cauterised, and the patient should gargle assiduously with the above-mentioned decoction.

We hasten to communicate to our readers this important discovery (which we borrow from the *Petersburgh Miscellaneous Treatises in "The Realm of Medical Science for 1821"*) which deserves the full attention of all medical practitioners, and which, if confirmed by experience, may have the most beneficial results.—*Translated from an Article in the Berlin "State Gazette," No. 20, of the 14th Feb. 1822.*

Since the above statement appeared in the *Berlin State Gazette*, an official report, made to the Prussian government, and quoted in a subsequent number of that newspaper, represents, that knots similar to those described by Mr. Marochetti were found under the tongue of a mad dog in Westphalia the last spring.

Medical men are anxiously solicited to set on foot inquiries and experiments in order to put Mr. Marochetti's statement to the proof. It may be well worth inquiring also, whether the cure, if such it is, is not effected by opening and cauterizing the knots, without the decoction of the broom having any part in it.

In the suggestion of trials of the remedy thus described, nothing can be less intended than interference with excision and actual cautery when practicable, which it would be highly imprudent to neglect, at any rate as far as the present treatment of the bite of the mad dog is ascertained.

In Russia, the wolves often go mad in winter. An English physician of eminence knew an instance of ten persons dying in the same village of hydrophobia, all bitten by the same wolf.

## AUTUMNAL FEVERS.

THERE is a species of fever which is very prevalent in the Autumn, and more particularly at the close of that season which by the faculty is termed *remittant* fever. It is dangerous, particularly when it attacks people above fifty years of age, bilious people, or hard drinkers. The symptoms are, pain in the head and back, shivering, vomiting, furred tongue, florid countenance, and great heat of skin—vomiting of bile, or dark-coloured fluid, is a frequent attendant upon it. The cause of this fever is attributed to the great degree of difference in the temperature of the day and the evenings, eating fruits, and the putrid effluvia which arises from decaying foliage and vegetables.

When a patient feels the approach of this fever, an emetic of twenty grains of ipecacuanha, with two grains of tartar emetic, must be taken. He must rest in bed, and next day take three grains of calomel and two of antimony, in a pill, staying still in bed, and towards evening repeat the dose; then in three or four hours after take either salts or senna, or twenty grains of jalap, or twenty-five grains of rhubarb, so as to cause copious evacuations by the bowels—purging in this complaint must be the sheet anchor, which with keeping the skin warm in bed, and drinking hot whey, will in nine cases out of ten cut short the fever, provided you commence in time. If however, success do not soon follow your plan, send immediately for a physician, as the treatment required after a few days becomes more suitable to the practitioner than others.

To avoid this fever is better than to cure it; so observe the following:—Put on an additional coat if the evening be chilly. Stay as little as possible in the night air, and take regularly once a week, one or two of the following pills.

Of Calomel, six grains

Of Rufus's Pills, fifteen grains.

Make into four pills.

## COUGH WHICH PRECEDES CONSUMPTION.

THIS cough is laborious to the best,



short, and by exertion produces phlegm: it is increased by the slightest cold—and by those increases becomes worse, until at last the lungs become diseased, and then adieu to physic;—it is attended with a wasting of the body, short breathing, peculiar thinness of the face and hollowness of the eyes, and perspiration becomes profuse.

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### SUMMER COUGH.

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THERE is a species of cough which is very prevalent during the hot months, it is a hard dry cough, and is brought on by every change in the day in particular habits; but more frequently in those who are of a delicate habit, and who have been previously subject to colds.

Why such sudden affections take place is this, the temperature in which the body is placed being very high, a sudden change through the medium of the mind takes place, and therefore causes an unequal degree of heat in that body; and the surface of the skin being dilated by the heat, is more susceptible to cold.

To remedy this evil, let particular attention be paid to keeping the breast warm, and even if dress forbids it, let it not be attended to; for we have known the opening of a waistcoat produce the disease we now treat of; and, also, that it has been removed by placing a silk kerchief under the waistcoat.

---

#### *Remedy for Summer Cough.*

Take of syrup of squills, two drachms,  
Of cinnamon water, one ounce.—Take this at bed-time.

---

### OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE TEETH.

---

A TOOTH consists of these parts:—The enamel, a peculiarly hard layer of matter composing the surface of the body of the tooth. The internal part, or inner substance of the tooth, is less stony and hard than the enamel, but of a firmer structure and more compact than com-

mon bone. In regard to the form of the tooth, we may observe, that it is divided into the crown, the neck, and the fangs, or roots of the tooth, which go deep into the jaw. There is a cavity in the body of the tooth, and the tube of the fangs communicates with it. This cavity receives vessels for supplying the remains of that substance upon which the tooth was originally formed. The roots of the teeth are received into the jaw by that kind of articulation which was called gomphosis. They are not firmly wedged into the bone, for in consequence of maceration, and the destruction of the soft parts, the teeth drop from the skull. There is betwixt the tooth and its socket in the jaw a common periosteum.

*Of the enamel.*—The surface of a tooth, that which appears above the gum, is covered with a very dense hard layer of matter, which has been called the enamel. In this term there is some degree of impropriety, as assimilating an animal production with a vitreous substance, although the enamel very widely differs from the glassy fracture when broken. This matter bestows the most essential quality of hardness on the teeth; and when the enamel is broken off, and the body of the tooth exposed, the bony part quickly decays.

The enamel is the hardest production of the animal body; it strikes fire with steel. In churchyard skulls it is observed to remain undecayed when the centre of the tooth has fallen into dust. It has been found that the component parts of the enamel are nearly the same with those of bone. In bone the phosphate of lime is deposited on the membranes, or cartilage, but this hardening matter of bones is a secretion from the vessels of the part, and is accumulated around the vessels themselves; it is still within the controul of their action, and is suffering the succession of changes peculiar to a living part. In the enamel, the phosphate of lime has been deposited in union with a portion of animal gluten, and has no vascularity, nor does it suffer any



change from the influence of the living system. Although the hardening matter be principally phosphate of lime, a small proportion of the carbonate of lime enters into the composition both of bone and of enamel. But in enamel, according to Morichini and Gay Lussac, there is fluat of lime, to which ingredient these chemists attribute the hardness of this crust.

Although we call the earthy deposit the hardening matter, yet it is the union of the glutinous matter which bestows the extreme hardness; for when the tooth is as yet within the jaw, and in an early stage of its formation, the deposition is soft, and its surface rough; but, by a change of action in the surface, which throws out this secretion, the first deposition is penetrated with a gelatinous secretion which either, by this preparation simply, or by causing a new apposition of its parts, (its structure indeed looks like crystallization,) bestows the density and extreme hardness on this crust.

When an animal is fed with madder, the colouring matter coming, in the course of the circulation, in contact with the earth of bone, is attracted by it, and is deposited upon it in a beautiful red colour. This colouring matter penetrates more than injection can be made to do in the dead body; and as by this process of feeding, the enamel is not tinged, we have a convincing proof that the vascular system has no operation on the enamel after it is formed.

In the marmot, beaver, and squirrel, the enamel is of a nut brown colour, on the anterior surface of the incisor teeth. The molares of some of the cloven-hoofed animals are covered with a black vitreous matter, and sometimes they have a crust of a shining substance like bronze. In the grinding teeth of the granivorous animals, the arrangement of the enamel is quite peculiar.

From the composition of the enamel, we must be aware of the bad effect of acidulated washes and

powders to the teeth; they dissolve the surface, and give a deceitful whiteness to the teeth; they erode the surface, which it is not in the constitution of the part to restore.

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### EFFECTS OF BATHING.

---

THERE is perhaps no subject before the public, in the shape of medical advice, or treatment, which requires more decided attention and perspicuity than that of bathing, viz.—A patient under the treatment of a physician, surgeon, or apothecary, is recommended to proceed to Margate, or any other bathing place, for the purpose of benefitting by the application of salt water on the body; the simple fact is this, patients labouring under scrofula, hypoehondriasis, and various other diseases too numerous to be mentioned, are those which practitioners generally recommend as fit subjects for sea air, and immersions in salt water. *Why*, because the practitioner has already exerted all the *little* science he is possessed of, and still retaining that self possession of *self* interest, which is the unanimous feeling of society; he is induced from a motive of preservation of character and reputation, to recommend his patients to try means which his own practical resources are not competent to appreciate, or justify; he sends the patient whose pockets he has drained, and whose constitution he has *perhaps* debilitated by a profusion of delectable matter in the shape of drugs, to seek his last remedy at a bathing place. Bathing acts in this way, a strong and hearty subject may enjoy the pleasures of bathing with impunity; but the debilitated subject who goes to Margate for the purpose of *expectation*, more than the system which he is recommended to pursue, should be careful in selecting the practitioner, who is capable of giving him that advice which is necessary for the restoration of his health; and let him mark this general rule. When he gets to Margate, observe strictly the state of his stomach,



viz. can he eat a good dinner, take his glass or two of wine without inconvenience, if so, he may according to the advice of his medical attendant, immerse his body in the water every morning, but on no account remain in it after that immersion; those whose symptoms are more debilitated, should merely immerse themselves every second morning, and as quickly quit the bath. The general principle, however, which should be adopted by persons seeking a sea-port for the specified purpose of receiving benefit, should be a particular attention to the alvine secretions, viz. let the bowels be moderately open, if possible by the action of nature; otherwise, by the administration of a mild aperient, viz. one grain of ipecacuanha, and ten or twelve of rhubarb, and the following morning the bath may be taken with benefit for the first week, using it every second day; should the desired effect follow, by invigorating the system, it may then be pursued daily, keeping in view this material point, that bathing can only be of service, by *sudden immersion*, and that remaining any length of time in the water, must invariably produce evil, whilst the object is to effect restoration or strength; adhere to this, and Margate will in future have to boast that England has found a second Montpelier.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 122.)

### OF REVULSION AND DERIVATION.

HIP. To one who hath pain in the hinder-part of the head, the vein rect in the forehead being opened, doth good.

COOK. He speaks here of local revulsion according to depth, from the hinder-part to the fore-part; only if the body be plethorick, let gentle evacuation precede.

HIP. If a woman will stay her

courses, apply a very great cupping-glass under her breast.

COOK. Only, if upon setting on, the woman become short-winded, immediately remove them. Large letting blood by repetition is excellent.

HIP. A woman is cured of vomiting blood, if her courses issue forth.

COOK. Understand it of that vomiting blood, by a vessel opened, (not broken or eroded) as from that branch arising from the upper splenic branch that is sent into the stomach. The other causes of vomiting must be otherwise dealt withal; or else for all the courses flow, they may kill.

HIP. A flux of the belly coming upon an ophthalmia, is good.

COOK. By this the humour being drawn down to the most distant opposite part, and from the upper to the lower, it is most profitable.

HIP. Those which void bilious excrements downward, if deafness come thereon, they cease from voiding them; and those that are deaf, are cured by voiding such excrements.

COOK. It must not be fixed deafness, and then the matter being translated, may cure it.

HIP. Those that wax deaf and thick of hearing through a fever, are delivered from it by a flux of blood at the nose, or a flux of the belly.

COOK. The morbifick matter sent to the ears by the strength of the brain, is evacuated by these ways, and so deafness is removed; hence we are directed to use lenitives to purge bile.

HIP. Pain or defluxes of the back that pass to the cubit, are dissolved by opening a vein.

COOK. Blood may be taken either from the opposite arm, or leg of the same side; yet more properly from the arm of the same side.

HIP. Bleeding at nose is good in women whose courses are stopt.

COOK. This is a better aversion, although that by the hemorrhoids is the best; that by vomit and dysentery is worst.



## OF INDICATIONS.

**HIP.** If the body of those which have an acute fever abide at the same stay, nothing abating, or else is wasted beyond reason, it is a very ill sign; for the first shews the length of the disease, the latter a greater debility of nature.

**COOK.** For non-extenuation depends on the density of the skin and crossness of the humours, therefore signifies a long disease. The other shews an exhausting of the spirits, humours, and solid parts, which are ill.

**HIP.** We must heat those things which are very cold, except in those who pour forth blood, or are inclined to pour it forth abundantly.

**COOK.** This shews, curing contraries by contraries, doth not always take place, unless in simple affects.

## OF HEAT NATURAL, PRETERNATURAL, AND FEVERS.

**HIP.** It is better that a fever should succeed a convulsion, than a convulsion a fever.

**COOK.** Convulsions are caused either by repletion or emptiness. Now when persons in health are suddenly convulsed, it is caused by fulness; and a fever falling upon this may do good; but that procured by a fever, is from emptiness, and very desperate.

**HIP.** If on a convulsion a fever follow, the convulsion is dissolved.

**COOK.** Because the fever takes away the cause.

**HIP.** All fevers proceeding from tumours in the groin, are ill, save diaries.

**COOK.** For diaries come from bubo's, procured from some outward cause, and not by inward inflammation of brain, heart and liver, whence matter causing bubo's, is sent to their emunctories; so those from children's bubo's and venereal are not ill.

**HIP.** Those fevers which have their shaking fits every day, are every day dissolved.

**COOK.** When fits do constantly observe the same returns, they sig-

nify the firmness and stability of the matter, that it cannot be mastered but in a long conflict; experience of this we usually have in quartan agues.

**HIP.** In whatsoever hour the fit of the fever ends, if it return the same hour the next day, it will be hardly judged.

**COOK.** If it be an essential periodick fever, it will not be easily dissolved, from the obstinateness of the matter, which whilst crude is not to be purged.

**HIP.** If non-intermitting fevers be more vehement every third day, they are dangerous; but in what manner soever they intermit, they are void of danger.

**COOK.** Those intermitting fevers must not be joined with any malign quality.

**HIP.** Unless the fever leave the patient in odd days, it is accustomed to return.

**COOK.** It only means of acute fevers that are continual; otherwise it is false.

**HIP.** Exquisite and exact tertians come to their crisis in seven fits at most.

**COOK.** Because it is caused by yellow bile carried up and down the sensible parts of the body, keeping its nature pure and sincere.

**HIP.** Whosoever in a continual fever, falls into shaking on the sixth day, it hinders judgment.

**COOK.** Because for the most part they presage either death or relapse.

**HIP.** Summer quartan fevers are for the most part short, but the autumnal long, especially those which remain till winter.

**COOK.** The first is shorter, not only from diet, but clemency of the air, which helps concoction, but it must be an essential fever; the other long, from a contrary account.

**HIP.** In fevers that intermit not, if the external parts be cold, and the internal parts burning and dry, it is deadly.

**COOK.** These are chiefly through inflammation of the nervous parts, as the stomach, guts, which are always mortal, and kill in few days.



HIP. Whatsoever fevers not intermitting, on the third day, grow stronger, are more dangerous; but those that sometimes intermit, are not dangerous.

COOK. As burning fevers and semitertians, which are usually not dangerous.

HIP. Those burning fevers are dissolved with a dotage, or raving, in which are trembling shakings.

COOK. It is true, they are dissolved, but that brings death at last.

HIP. In fevers without intermission, if cold shivering fits assail the sick, being already weak, it is deadly.

COOK. It must be cold happening often, and evacuation following; and then it is deadly indeed.

HIP. A solution of a burning fever is caused by supervening coldness.

COOK. If it happen with copious sweats, vomiting, dejection of the belly, or flux of the blood.

HIP. When in a non-intermitting fever, difficulty of breathing and dotage happen, it is deadly.

COOK. Because the heart and brain are vehemently hurt: only dotage and difficulty of breathing must last long; for otherwise they may happen healthfully.

ED. These aphorisms are, generally speaking, correct, and Cook's comments not quite so obscure as before.

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## ON THE CONTAMINATED AIR OF GREAT CITIES.

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IN great and populous cities, where numbers congregate, and where large quantities of provisions must be supplied for their use, it becomes almost unavoidable to guard against the accumulation of substances of refuse, which may injure the healths of individuals, by their becoming putrid, and rendered unfit for the support of life; in towns where every foot of ground is occupied, room can scarcely be found to have

an appropriate place, as a fit receptacle for the redundancy of articles, which cannot be consumed before they begin to decay.

The injurious effects of the decomposition of injured fruits, which is constantly going in the various markets, and places of reception for articles of a vegetable nature, as well as animal, must undoubtedly be injurious to the inhabitants around, the constant effluvia arising from them, and other species of filth, which very often accumulates, tends much to injure the air of the metropolis; how necessary is it that attention should be paid in this particular; a little pains would almost entirely remove the evil, were but the carts, and vehicles, which convey the fruits of the earth to the metropolis, obliged by a law, or certain restrictions, to take back the injured provisions, and all descriptions of refuse, with them to the country, where they might be safely deposited far from the habitations of man; it would have a highly beneficial effect, not only rendering comfort to the dwellers in town, but would also produce an acceptable manure to the cultivator of land, thus benefiting both parties.

The inhabitants of cities, who are debarred from the gratifications, and sweets of rural odours, ought not surely to be incommoded by the offensive effluvia arising from the decay of what the cultivator enjoys in its bloom and beauty; the former often when he walks along the crowded and populous streets, meets with perfumes, which strike his olfactory nerves in no very pleasant manner; which to persons of tender and delicate habits, as well as the more robust, must certainly have an injurious tendency; how frequently do fevers and other complaints, arise from inhaling air, impregnated with contaminated particles, they inhale and drink down diseases at every breath, the air instead of purifying their blood, contaminates it, the crimson stream thus defiled, carries the seeds of a latent, and perhaps incurable disorder over



the whole frame, until the constitution no longer able to resist its continual effects, becomes oppressed with diseases, and borne down with infirmity, the poor patient looks for nothing but a gloomy and a silent grave. Physicians advise, and apothecaries mix their potions, all in vain—he still inhales the latent cause of his distemper, he gets perhaps no better, probably worse, though every means are used, until the catalogue of drugs and restoratives are exhausted, have all in turn been tried, but tried in vain; then perchance, as a last remedy, change of air, a country visit is advised; driven to the last extreme, the patient yields him to the necessity, probably much against his will, the journey will fatigue, and the motion incommode him, but as “necessity has no law,” he submits and goes. Very soon a change takes place, which plainly shows the cause of his disease; scarcely does he get a few miles from the smoky and impregnated atmosphere he breathed before, ere he feels better, after a day or two he becomes stronger, his nerves are braced, and the pure unadulterated air of heaven, works a cure, which all the potent drugs, and the mixtures of pharmacy could never effect. So injurious being the effects of the contaminated air, it should be the duty of every one, to preserve it as pure as possible, each one should study for his own and neighbour’s sake, to remove every thing which may tend to infect it. It would be well worthy the legislature, and they have done it in many instances, to prohibit many of the practices of the metropolis; trade may at first be injured by it, but the lives of its inhabitants would be more secure. Manufactures injurious to health, should be banished to spots, where but few habitations abound, their produce may be easily conveyed to the places where they meet with a ready demand, and would be the more thankfully received, and more readily paid for, by the consumers being exempted from the nuisances which attend their production.

While treating on this subject, we would not neglect noticing the necessity of admitting fresh air into sleeping rooms, after they have been closed all the night, and the air exhausted by respiration; this with many is a common practice, but others may not have adopted it, who would do well for the future not to neglect so easy and necessary a preservation of wholesome air.

T. N.

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### KEEP YOUR HEAD WARM.

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PERHAPS there is no maxim so little attended to as this, and particularly in summer. We beg our readers to think of this. Let them always cover the head when going to rest, for the unequal degree of perspiration afforded by the bed-clothes, requires a particular attention to the head. In summer we are more liable to cold from this neglect than in winter.

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### HOW TO TAKE OFF A LIMB.

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WHEN you have the unhappy casualty in your family, requiring the operation to remove a limb, do not be eaten up with the idea, that your next door neighbour surgeon is competent to perform it; nor that *all our great surgeons* are better qualified for it. Search out a surgeon that has served in the army or navy *in battle, in the hospitals which have been in the neighbourhood of a battle*; in that, see if this public service surgeon has seen the field; this is the man for you to employ as an operator, for he has in all probability seen and performed more operations than *all the English surgeons put together*.

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### MANAGEMENT OF THE SICK.

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THERE is always much scope for



exercise of discretion in the management of the sick. This is better understood and practised in large towns, than in the country; it is however not enough attended to any where.

I have frequently been embarrassed when seated by my patient, particularly if a female, to observe half a dozen impertinently curious spectators, who took no interest in the welfare of the sick, but were merely collecting materials for their own empirical practice of gossiping tattle, or were actuated by some other (for such there are) more censurable motives.

A mother, an aunt, or sister, or some assistant, capable of answering inquiries and of receiving directions, and especially capable of keeping silence when she has nothing to say, should be present, and that is enough. More than once have I witnessed a sick chamber surrounded with wet eyes and gloomy faces, all directed to the sick man, just as he was waking from a frightful sleep of a feverish state. The expressions of this folly could be nothing less, at least to his timid imagination, than a persuasion in their minds, that he was about to leave the world. These intruders should be carefully barred from the house of sickness, as should the wild religionist.

It is possible that some individuals of both classes mean well; but if so, they are to be thanked for the intention only, because they have not the power of doing good. The one endangers the health of the body, the other the sanity of the mind. The former character is the reverse of that of an enlightened sympathetic friend, who knows how to execute the dictates of his heart; the latter is the opposite of the humane, sensible divine, who knows how to administer comfort and inspire hope, as well as to convey instruction, and enjoin obedience to the precepts of a sublime and rational religion.

## PHYSIC; OR, I DIE.

THE majority of people of this country, are ever studying the best means of preserving health, and at the same time pursue a course that *must* have results precisely contrary to their wishes. They will seek for medicines with the utmost avidity, and will fill their carcasses with patent medicines and the nostrums of the *regular* quack, in order to cure some disorder having existence, only in their weak imaginations; and when by dint of perseverance, they have travelled through the pharmacopœia, purged, blistered, and *bled profusely* from the pocket, they find the disease, or rather the imaginary disease, just as it was previous to their *course* of medicine. Simple practice after all is the best. When a person is affected by some particular complaint, imaginary or otherwise, first let them take a purgative, so as to free the bowels; rest a day or two, and then if any bad symptom remain which alarms, let a medical man be consulted, if possible a physician; but if a surgeon, or an apothecary who keeps a shop, a stipulation should be made, such as a certain sum for every attention necessary. If otherwise, he sends you in bottles, powders, pills, and boluses, until you find that you have more to pay for medicine, than the fees of a physician would amount to, and his prescriptions to boot.

## HOW TO CURE A CUT, A BURN, OR AN ULCER.

WHEN the wound is direct, the cure is simple:—It is proper to effect a certain degree of inflammation, in order that the lymph may be thrown out advantageously, and, consequently, an union be the result.

In a burn, reduce the violent inflammation that may be existing, by poultices; and when the injury has assumed the form of a common ulcer, if it be flabby, stimulate the




edges or surface (as occasion may be) with two drachms of sulphate of zinc, and eight ounces of water. This will give a tone to the part essential to the healing process.

When you are *blessed* with an ulcer observe these facts:—The ulcer *cannot* heal until it has assumed a florid red appearance. When, by the use of *proper* stimulants, you have effected this, the next thing you have to study is the permanent cure; commence thus:—Take a piece of spread adhesive plaster, according to the nature and size of the ulcer, and warming it, apply it to the upper part of the

ulcer, thus—  then across

the former strap apply another,

thus—  and so on, until the

ulcer or wound be cured. A strict attention to diet, as recommended in former Numbers, and a proper attention to the state of the bowels, and to exercise, will most probably effect a cure in a few days.

## ON SLEEP.

DR. ARMSTRONG, the poet of health, observes—

“ ’Tis the great art of life to manage well  
The restless mind.”

The grand secret seems to be, to contrive that the exercise of the body, and that of the mind, may serve as relaxations to each other.

Over exertion, or anxiety of mind, disturbs digestion infinitely more than any fatigue of body;—the brain demands a much more abundant supply of the animal spirits, than is required for the excitement of mere legs and arms,

“ ’Tis the sword that wears out the scabbard.”

Of the two ways of fertilizing

the brain—by sleep, or by spirituous stimulus—(for some write best in the morning, others when wound up with wine, after dinner or supper:) the former is much less expensive, and less injurious to the constitution, than either port or brandy, whose aid it is said that some of our best authors have been indebted to, for their most brilliant productions.

Calling one day on a literary friend, we found him reclining on a sofa. On expressing our concern to find him indisposed, he said, “No, I was only *hatching*; I have been writing till I was quite tired. My paper must go to press to-day, so I was taking my usual restorative—a nap; which, if it only lasts five minutes, so refreshes my mind, that my pen goes to work again spontaneously.”

Is it not better economy of time, to go to sleep for half an hour, than to go on noodling all day in a nerveless and semi-superannuated state; if not asleep, certainly not effectively awake for any purpose requiring the energy of either the body or the mind?

“A *forty winks nap*,” in an horizontal posture, is the best preparative for any extraordinary exertion of either.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.

SIR,

IN your last number, I perceive you have brought that infamous impostor Norton, to that notice he required; but, Sir, he has not yet got half his desert, nor shall he until he be whipped after



a cart. You say that he goes his rounds *booted and spurred*—so he does ; but, Sir, do you know that this *booting and spurring* is all finesse. He *has no horse whatever*, and he tells the people to whom he addresses his infamous bills, that he just “*put up*” his horse in order to walk round—that he “does not practice so much *for gain* as to employ his leisure hours, &c.” I was sitting in my parlour at breakfast, the first day I saw this rascal, and was led to put my head out at the window from hearing him talking loudly at the next door to a poor invalid who was swallowing all he said as “gospel,” “Your *lights*,” said he, “is sticking to your ribs, and your liver is as hard as a clinker ; but,” says he, “I’ll walk down here now and again, I shall see you, &c, &c.” The fellow in his turn came to my door, knocked, and began the same sort of preamble which he did at every other, namely, that he was a surgeon in the Navy—that he would just leave this bill, and call for it tomorrow, &c. &c. I cut the fellow short, by stating coolly to him, that if he did not forthwith decamp, I would send for a constable, and have him taken up as a vagrant. He muttered something, and very soon took my hint. He has never been with us since—now three months

I am, &c. &c.

JAMES L. HILTON.

*Elm Cottage, Hackney.*

P. S.—Norton, although not much known in town, is, from the plan he pursues of going round the cottages of the humbler classes in the suburbs, doing almost as much mischief as Jordan or Eady.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

DEAR DOCTOR,

It is very hard as soon as you get a patient, you soon cure him, as he gets raving mad, for example :—

Dr. Eady by your own acknowledgment.

Dr. ——— too is outrageous with you—poor fellow, he must never go to the levee again.

Dr. ——— last Friday evening, was observed running along the Strand, and calling loudly “MEDI-

CAL ADVISER ! MEDICAL ADVISER !” in his way up Catherine-street, he threw down a poor nurse with a child, he then ran against a chaise and horse, and nearly broke his head ; and then tumbled into a bookseller’s shop, in Catherine-street, loudly calling for the “MEDICAL ADVISER ! Is the MEDICAL ADVISER arrived ?” He then bought two, gave instead of sixpence, half a sovereign, and ran quickly out exclaiming, I will give it the rascally rascals.

I will in future inform you of some other of your patients.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

THE zeal and ability you have evinced in exposing the base and fraudulent arts of many of our more daring empirics, have entitled you to the thanks of the public at large, and should stimulate every subordinate member of the profession, to assist your laudable efforts in attempting to root out and destroy the pestilential evil, as it is extending its baneful influence in various degrees and forms, throughout this great metropolis.

In the immediate vicinity of my own residence, a specious and novel specimen of quackery, has been brought before the public, within the last six months, and is wickedly and unblushingly denominated, “The General Medical Institution,” for the relief of the diseased poor, but whose genuine appellation is selfishness, under the garb of benevolence. Doctor Zebedee Dunkin, the sapient and enlightened individual, for whose exclusive profit, and professional fame, this project has been contemplated, began his distinguished career for brilliant conceptions, and skilful combinations, under the auspices of a country shop-keeper, who sold drugs and other wares. He was subsequently transplanted behind the counter of an eminent compounder and druggist, in the Borough ; and when he ventured to take a shop for himself, (and had received no other instruc-



tion, than the little he was enabled to glean in the retail dispensatory ;) our now presuming Charlatan was content to designate himself by the humbler title of chemist and druggist; but trade did not prosper, and the medical superintendent, became in a few years a bankrupt. Since that period he has taken fresh courage, and having prescribed for patients before the passing of the apothecaries' act, in 1815, he is not amenable to its penalties, and has subsequently started with the imposing exhibition of apothecary and accoucheur!!

A few bad cases of obstetric practice, which our hero obtained by superintending upon less terms than his better qualified neighbours, has recently cooled his ardour for midwifery, and being aware there is better hiding ground to cover blunders in the practice of physic; he in November last, sent forth a rhapsodical, hypocritical address, full of whine and cant among a few of the saints, who are pretty numerous (at least in profession) in this neighbourhood; setting forth the great want of a pious medical attendant upon the poor, who will take the charge of both body and soul, and do more than all the medical men in the neighbourhood, collectively, to save both. And all this gratis too,—only he must find a number of dupes to pay their guineas a year, to enable doctor Zebedee to diffuse his disinterested services among the diseased poor!!! To give this scheme some cohesion and form, a private meeting was called by means of the above named address being conveyed to a few select individuals, who were supposed to be favourable to the “superintendent's” views.

The president, a compassionate brother-in-law, and sagacious linen-draper, kindly consented to become the chairman and treasurer of the institution. Books were opened, and invitations most pressingly given to such of their neighbours whom they hoped to hoodwink by this benevolent and pious scheme, and to catch as subscribers. And is it not strange that in these days

of credulity, the public should have been gulled by an imposition of so flimsy a texture? I enclose you herewith the circular address, and a copy of the rules and regulations, with a list of subscribers, and ask if there is either genuine charity, or christian piety manifested in those who are neither regular educated apothecaries or surgeons, to assume the character of medical superintendents of the health of the “diseased poor,” in this or any other neighbourhood, but merely tolerated by having been in business previous to the late apothecaries' act. Besides in the immediate vicinity of this redoubtable doctor, such an institution if it were designed and conducted by a truly effective, and intelligent practitioner, might be considered a work of supererogation. The Kent and Surrey Dispensaries extend their benevolent and professional succour, through the agency of the humane and very able surgeons attached to those institutions, to all persons who are disposed to apply for medical and surgical assistance. These two charities take in the whole circle of the district, described by this mushroom doctor, who with an equal proportion of modesty and talent, has presumed to assert there is a deficiency of medical provision for the diseased poor. And from motives which the most superficial observer cannot fail to detect, this pure and disinterested philanthropist, presumes to propose a new institution for his own exclusive profit. For God's sake, if any new establishments of this nature are really wanted, let us have men appointed to conduct them who are competent to the performance of the duties required of a surgeon; and not suffer a person destitute of the necessary medical qualifications for such a duty, to usurp the functions, and assume an office, to which he has no just pretensions. Such men from presumption, would undertake the medical care of a whole nation, and the injury they do, can only be counteracted by unmasking their machinations by a public exposure. This, Sir, is my object in furnishing you



with this detail, which if compatible with the design and spirit of your useful publication, I shall feel obliged by your giving it early insertion, and remain, Sir, with respect,

Your's sincerely,

T. TRUEMAN.

*Bermondsey,  
August, 12th, 1824.*

The above letter opens to the public eye, a system which has ever been the aim of individuals in the profession, who wish to monopolize—men who under the mask of philanthropy, have no object but their own interest; their plan is to procure a number of patients, and to

make others pay for them;—this might be passed over, if they always acquitted themselves with justice to those patients, but they too often neglect them, for which reason, nine out of ten of the poor, prefer paying themselves sooner than apply to such establishments. However, we do not disapprove of the principle, provided men of education, and strict adherence to duty, were the medical attendants; but when such men as Mr. Zebedee Dunkin, a mere druggist, are to have the sole medical management, it is an evil of the most dangerous character.

### THE QUACKS.—A PARODY.

To quack, or not to quack? that is the question:—  
Whether 'tis better for the body to suffer  
The pains and sorrows of a troublesome disease,  
Or to consult the quacks upon their ills;  
So they by killing end them? To die, to quack,  
No more; and, by a draft, to say we end  
The head-ache, and the thousand cares and pains  
That flesh is heir to; 'tis a consummation  
Devoutly to be wished (but sought in vain  
Amid the monstrous quacks). To flux, to dose,  
To dose, perchance to pill.—Aye, there's the rub;  
For in that pilling what deaths may come,  
When we have swallowed all their potions vile  
'Twill give life pause;—there's the reason;  
That's the preventive of a long happy life,  
For who can bear the stuff, and poisonous drugs  
The med'cine wrong, the base quacks' oppression,  
And the pangs of tortured life, the health's decay,  
The insolence of ignorance, and the nostrums  
That the poor sickly dupe of quackery takes,  
When he himself might his quietus make  
With a good doctor? Who would quackery bear,  
To groan and sweat under a weary life,  
Did they but dread the nonsense which they talk  
In praise of poisonous nostrums, from whose effects  
No patient finds relief, but a weakened body,  
And makes him forced to bear the ills he has  
Until he flies to men who have the proper skill.  
'Tis thoughtlessness that makes fools of us all;  
And thus the wished-for renovation  
Is prevented by the cant of a vile quack;  
For sorrows, pains, and smarts oppress the poor  
Unfortunate, who seeks a sovereign remedy  
In a quack's prescription.

T. N.

*Aug. 20, 1824.*





### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Sulphur a preservative against Measles.*—During the winter of 1817, the measles prevailed epidemically at Munster. Children affected with the itch, who were using sulphur externally and internally, were exempt. In 1822, measles occurred again, preceded for many days by a convulsive cough.—For this symptom I prescribed flour of sulphur and white sugar, half a tea spoonful. Many trials were made on children of different families and ages, and all who took it in time escaped from death.—*Massachusetts Spy.*

*To Hypochondriacs.*—To be always considering, “what we should eat, and what we should drink, and wherewithal we should be clothed,” in order to avoid the approach of disease, is the most likely means of provoking its attack. A man who is continually feeling his pulse, is never likely to have a good one. If he swallow his food from the same motive as he does his physic, it will neither be enjoyed nor digested so well as if he ate in obedience to the dictates of an uncalculating appetite. The hypochondriac who is in the habit of weighing his meals, will generally find that they lay heavy on his stomach. If he take a walk or ride, with no other view than to pick up health, he will seldom meet it on the road.

*Extraordinary febrile crisis.*—A gentleman hearing of the death of another—“I thought,” said he, to a person in company, “you told me that —’s fever was gone off?”—“Oh yes,” replied the latter, “I did so, but forgot to mention that he was gone off along with it!”

*Cure for Drunkenness.*—Baron Brulk Cramer, a celebrated German, has found out a method of making the most confirmed tippler

have the greatest loathing and repugnance to all sorts of spirits and strong liquor. Take one tea-spoonful of the tincture of calumba, one tea-spoonful of the tincture of cascarills, one tea-spoonful of the compound tincture of gentian, a wine glass full of the infusion of quassia, and twenty drops of elixir of vitriol; mix, and take twice or thrice a day, and have a jug of cold water dashed over the head every morning coming out of bed, and the feet bathed in warm water every night. Continue this for six or eight weeks. Dr. Rotn, of Swinnemunde, has succeeded with this remedy in curing many poor creatures, both men and women, who were killing themselves by continual tippling and drunkenness.

In the city of Norwich, the following lines were stuck on a show-board, over the door of No. 1, Bar-rack-street, in that city:—

House painting; rags and pickings  
bought;

Hogs killed, and hornpipe dancing taught;  
Small beer, and Godfrey’s cordial; yest  
Sold here, and teeth with ease displaced;  
The itch, and something more in fashion,  
Both cured without examination;  
Corns cut; kibes\* cured; shoes made  
with list,

And leather breeches clean’d and drest;  
Bricklaying jobs, and bleeding done,  
By Marshall Purland, No. 1.

*Foundlings.*—It results, from some tables just published, by M. Benoiston, in a “Memoire sur les Enfants Trouves,” that the number of foundlings has gone on increasing in every state in Europe, except from 1790 to 1800. During that interval the diminution amounted to a third; but after that period, and particularly since 1815, the number has constantly increased.—There were 51,000 foundlings in France in 1798, 69,000 in 1809, 84,500 in 1815, and 138,500 in 1822. According to the “*Annuaire du Bureau des Longitudes*,” there were, in 1823, 932,130 births in the year, which gives one child abandoned out of every 28. It appears from the information given by the government, that the provinces

\* Chilblains.



near the sea, in which there are most populous cities, and which are the centre of arts and industry, containing 20,000,000 inhabitants, hardly give as many foundlings as the remaining 10,000,000 who occupy the centre provinces, from which Paris and Lyons are subtracted, as each of them supplies 6,000. — *Paris paper.*

*Hydrophobia.*—A correspondent informs us that the late Lord Yarborough possessed a recipe for the cure of this malady, and that at his death he left it to his huntsman, who still continues on his estate near Brigg, in Lincolnshire. The patient is kept on a complete starving plan during the cure.

Now we do not believe that this said "cure" is any cure at all.

*Sugar as Antidote to Poison from Lead.*—The following fact has been stated by M. Reynard to the Société des Sciences of Lisle. During the campaign of Russia several loaves of sugar had been enclosed in a chest containing some flasks of extract of lead. One of these flasks

having been broken, the liquid escaped, and the sugar became impregnated with it. During the distresses of the campaign, it was necessary to have recourse to this sugar; but far from producing the fatal results which were expected, the sugar formed a salutary article of nourishment to those who made use of it, and gave them a degree of vigour and activity which was of the greatest service in enabling them to support the fatigues of marching. Hence M. Reynard thinks that sugar might be adopted for preventing the effects of subacetate of lead, instead of sulphates of soda, and of magnesia, which are not always at hand.

Croisart had so extensive and intimate a knowledge of pathognomic signs, that he could discover the most hidden disease merely by looking at the countenance. One day seeing the portrait of a person of whom he knew nothing, "That man," said he "must have died of a disease of the heart." This was the fact."

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our Correspondents are informed, that from certain arrangements made by the Editor, all letters containing an address, shall be answered as soon as received.

A LADY OF FORTY-FIVE must keep her bowels regular, and syringe the ears morning and night with warm water, after which put a drop of oil in each.

A. M. A. must send an address;—so must A. Z.

A CONSTANT READER is informed that Dufour's book on stricture is not fit to be read by any patient.

A remedy for cracked lips shall be given in our next.

ANNE R. OF HEREFORD should blister her breast once every fortnight until she finds relief. A cup of horehound tea taken in the morning, fasting will serve her. She should drink soda water and milk, equal parts, and keep her bowels regular with rhubarb and magnesia.

J. M.'s Old Woman's Remedies shall be noticed.

MARY K.—'s; they cease to flow in almost every case.

AMBREMER. The injury is most likely in the cellular substance between the ribs. Let him blister the part.

MANUS must send an address.

MARY.—We are glad to find her recovering; repeat the medicine.

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 AND  
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## THE HUMAN SPECIES.

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IN our plate of this Number we have the varieties of the human species,—the European, the Asiatic, the African, and the American. Effects of climate and manners upon mankind are here presented; and who can contemplate them with the eye of a physiologist without interest. The features, the colour of the skin, the quality of the hair, and the temperament of the constitution, are so different; yet the original formation, so alike, that it gives a vast field of speculation to the physician's mind, as regards the nature of the body, and the diseases to which it is liable. The importance of the subject requires more undivided attention than we can at this moment spare; but we mean to dwell upon it at no distant period, with that attention which it deserves.

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## LEPROSY.

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THIS disease consists of a number of copper-coloured spots all over the body, having a scaly and glossy appearance of the skin, falling off of the hair, thickening of the lobes of the ears, hoarseness of the voice, foetid breath, and partial ulcerations. The spots encrease, the features of the face become enlarged, and a general mass of ulceration takes place, which sinks the unhappy patient.

The disease is sometimes hereditary, but more commonly from contagion. There is a predisposition to it in certain families beyond doubt.

It seldom appears in cold climates to that extent as it does in warm ones, and it is particularly assiduous in its attacks upon the negroes.

It is possible to remove the disease in its first stages; but when it becomes confirmed, we believe it is impossible to cure it. Viper broths and lizard broths have been recommended, but Dr. Thomas declares that he has never seen any benefit arising from these remedies in the

West Indies, where he had frequent opportunities of seeing and treating the disease. Arsenic is much used in Asia for it, and sometimes employed in Europe. The solution of arsenic, in the dose of six drops a-day, is the proper mode of administering it.

The best mode of treating it in its commencement, is to observe a rigid vegetable diet; no fish, animal food, or butter should be allowed, nor heating liquors; he should, in fact, become a *vegetable dieter*. He must keep the bowels regular by rhubarb, and occasionally take three grains of antimonial powder, with two of calomel, in a pill at night. A pint of the decoction of sarsaparilla daily should also be drank, and the scurfy spots touched twice a-day with diluted citron ointment. Spruce beer also is good in this disease. We would recommend a trial of the *tar ointment*; by anointing the whole body; it might do good, and is worthy of trial.

We will give some further observations upon leprosy next week.

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## TINEA CAPITIS; OR, SCALD-HEAD.

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ONE of the most disagreeable diseases in the world, and extremely prevalent amongst the poor; inattention to cleanliness is generally the cause. We have at this moment a case of the most virulent nature, and it is fast yielding to the use of the tar ointment.

We have spoken of this disease in a former Number; however, we repeat our advice in favour of the above-mentioned ointment. First shave the head, and then apply it. This disease is by many supposed incurable; but this is wrong. Try the remedy.

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## LOOK AT YOUR TONGUE.

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THIS is a good maxim. Examine your tongue every morning, and if



to be either white or furry, your digestive organs are not in a good state; you have either indulged too much the day before in eating or drinking; or both, or else you have been uneasy in your mind, or indulged in certain excesses. First then brush your mouth well, and then take a dose of Seidlitz powders, to make which, for half price, is a recipe in one of our former Numbers, or else a dose of rhubarb and magnesia. Take a cup of tea and any thing else that is going; then walk out, and about eleven or twelve take a glass of soda-water, with a little wine mixed with it. You need not take the physic every day, but observe to have at least one motion daily.

#### POISONING FROM TOBACCO.

MARY TURNER, a child of six years of age, living at Stratford, on last Thursday, swallowed a portion of half-smoked tobacco, which she took out of her mother's pipe, and in the evening was seized with violent retching, which continued until next day, when she died. This was from the poisonous oil contained in the tobacco, and which exude in smoking

#### APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 152.)

##### OF HEAT NATURAL, PRETERNATURAL, AND FEVERS.

HIP. If in a fever the lips, eyebrows, eyes, or nose be turned aside; the sick see not, hear not; whichever of these happen, the body being weak, death is at hand.

COOK. For those denote a very great debility of the sensible virtue, and very great exolution of the spirits.

HIP. In fevers, a vehement heat about the stomach, and gnawing about the heart is bad.

COOK. In continual fevers, it is a sign the sharpest bilious matter flows to the stomach; which being a principal part, it is ill.

HIP. In continual fevers, to be

afraid in sleep, or to have convulsions, is ill.

COOK. In such fevers, it is from ill vapours to the brain which affect it.

HIP. In acute fevers, convulsions and strong pains about the bowels are bad.

COOK. It is before noted, that a convulsion in acute fevers is bad; but if strong pains of the bowels do accompany, it is doubtless more dangerous, because they are caused either by great inflammation, or by a hot and dry distemper procured by a burning fever, which must be great to procure such pains; and so it threatens death.

HIP. Those who have long dry coughs in burning fevers, are wont not to be very thirsty.

COOK. The cough must not be from crasse or malign distillation, but from a distillation thin and gentle; or from a cold distemper of the parts of respiration; for these humect.

HIP. They have a vehement fever who have a tough and clammy moisture about the teeth.

COOK. In continual; for those clammy moistures cannot grow there without excessive heat, which dries up the pituitous humours.

HIP. Apostemes in fevers which are not dissolved in the first crisis, signify the length of the disease.

COOK. Because they shew a multitude of noxious humours, which nature could not expel at one crisis.

HIP. In fevers, breathing not keeping due course, signifies convulsions.

COOK. It is breath interrupted, breaking off abruptly in the middle of respiration, and it happens as well in inspiration as in expiration, but more seldom; it happens oft in crying children; by this the muscles and nerves are prepared for convulsion.

HIP. Cold shakings and shiverings for most do begin in women, from the loins through the back to the head; but in men they rather begin in the back part of the body than in the fore part, as from the hinder part of the thigh and elbow; the rarity and thinness of the skin is a token thereof, which thing the



hair there growing does declare and manifest.

COOK. For that part which is hairy is also hot, and its rarity is from heat, and the thicker the skin is, the less hair grows upon it.

HIP. Sighing and mourning in an acute disease joined with a fever, is ill.

COOK. This is the calling back the breath inwardly from the strength broken, and dryness of the wind-pipe, and convulsion of the muscles of the breast, and this from crying, which is ill.

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#### OF THE HEAD, AND PAINS THEREOF.

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HIP. Great swelling veins in the legs, called *varices*, are not incident to them who lose their hair; and if those happen to have varices whose hair doth fall, their hair will grow again.

COOK. Therefore purge the body, if the hair fall from that stinking matter which is drawn to the head.

HIP. Eunuchs are neither troubled with gout nor baldness.

COOK. For it renders the body more cold, and being free from venery, therefore not gouty; besides, in Hippocrates' time they used good diet, and lived temperately.

ED. Hippocrates and Cook are, in their remarks, more consistent than heretofore.

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#### AIR.

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MANY invalids are hurried into their grave, by the indiscreet kindness of their friends forcing them from the comforts of home, for the sake of air more abounding with oxygen, i. e. the vivifying part of the atmosphere: that great benefit is received from what is called change of air, is true enough; but it is seldom considered, that there is also a change in most of the other circumstances of the patient—many, of infinitely more impor-

tance, than that which derives all the credit of the cure.

For instance, if a person living in a confined part of the city, neglecting exercise, harassed all day by the anxieties of business, and sitting up late at night, &c. be removed to the tranquility of rural scenes, which invite him to be almost constantly taking exercise in the open air, and retiring to rest at an early hour; and thus, instead of being surrounded by irritations unfavourable to health, enjoying all the "*jucunda oblivio vitæ*" which are favourable to it, such a change will sometimes do wonders and sufficiently account, for the miraculous cures attributed to change of air.

Chemical philosophers assert indeed, that a gallon of the unsavoury gas from Garlick Hill, gives as high a proportion of oxygen, as the like quantity of the ethereal element of Primrose Hill: this seems incredible and must arise either from the imperfection of the Eudiometer giving erroneous results, or from the air being impregnated with matter unfriendly to health, which the instruments employed to analyze it, have not the power of denoting: let any one thread the mazes of a crowded city, and walk for the same space of time in a pleasant country; the animal spirits will soon testify, which is the most exhilarating.

However, people certainly do live long, and enjoy health, in situations apparently very unfavourable to animal life.

Our Omniscient Creator has given to our lungs, the same faculty of extracting nutriment from various kinds of air, as the stomach has from various kinds of aliment: the poor man who feeds on the coarsest food, is supported by it in as sound health, as the rich man who fares sumptuously every day.

Well then, in nine cases out of ten, to change the atmosphere we have been long accustomed to, is as unadvisable as a change in the food we have been used to, unless other circumstances make it so, than the mere change of place.

The opulent invalid who has been



ing indulged with a home arranged to his humour, must beware (especially during any exacerbation of his infirmity) of leaving it, it would be almost as desperate a procedure as to eject an oyster from his shells.

### CINNAMON—ITS PROPERTIES, &c.

THERE are several varieties of the cinnamon tree known at Ceylon. Seba enumerates ten, but the four following only are said to be barked: 1. Honey, or sharp sweet cinnamon, (*Rase Curundu*, in the language of the natives), which is the finest sort; 2. Snake cinnamon, (*Nai Curundu*), similar to the first; 3. Camphorated cinnamon, (*Capura Curundu*), so named from its having the odour of camphor, and the root yielding camphor by distillation; and 4. Bitter astringent cinnamon, (*Cahatte Curundu*), which has smaller leaves than the former varieties. The trees that grow in the valleys in a white sandy soil are fit to be barked when four or five years old, but those in a wet soil, or in shady places, require to be seven or eight years of age. The bark is good for nothing if the tree be older than eighteen years. The tree was formerly propagated by a species of pigeon, that ate the fruit, and voided the seed; but since Falck, one of the Dutch governors, about the middle of the eighteenth century, raised it from berries sown in his garden, it has been regularly cultivated.

The barking, particularly in the vicinity of Negombo and Matura, commences early in May, and continues until late in October. The *chaliahs*, or people who perform it, are under native officers called cinnamon *moodeliars*, who are answerable for the quantity barked. Branches of three years old are selected, and lopped off with a pruning knife, or bill hook called a *ketta*. To remove the bark, a longitudinal incision is made through it on both sides the shoot, so that it can be gradually loosened, and taken off entire, forming hollow cylinders. The bark in this state tied up into bundles, is allowed to remain for twenty-four hours, by which a fermentation is pro-

duced that facilitates the separation of the epidermis, which with the green pulpy matter under it is carefully scraped off. The bark now soon dries, contracts, and assumes the quilled form, after which the smaller pieces are put within the larger. The cinnamon, when dry, is tied up in bundles of 30lbs. weight, and carried to the government store-house, where the quality is determined by inspection of the bundles. It was formerly chewed, and the surgeons who used to be thus employed, had their mouths so excoriated, as to be unable to continue the process longer than two days together: but tasting is now seldom had recourse to.

Cinnamon is brought home in bags or bales, weighing 92 lbs. each: and in stowing it black pepper is mixed with the bales to preserve the cinnamon. According to Mr. Marshall's account, the annual quantity of cinnamon sold at the East India Company's sales, taken on an average of the last eight years, up to 1810, is 318,258 lbs.; at an average price of six shillings per pound. But much cinnamon, of an inferior kind, reaches Europe through private merchants, particularly from China.

The *oil of cinnamon* is prepared by macerating the bark in sea-water for two days, then distilling with a slow fire, and separating the oil from the water with which it comes over. It is generally adulterated with alcohol or expressed oil. Eleven pounds of cinnamon are required to procure one ounce of the oil. Cinnamon is sometimes intermixed with cinnamon from which the oil has been drawn, and with cassia. The former is detected by the weakness of its odour and taste; and the latter by its thickness, smooth fracture, and remarkably slimy taste.

Cinnamon has a very pleasant, fragrant odour, and a pungent, aromatic, sweetish taste; but when it is very hot, without sweetness, and leaves a mawkish taste in the mouth, it is of an inferior quality. The best is rather pliable, but breaks in splinters; is as thin as paper, and of a light yellowish colour: thickness, and a dark or brown colour, are marks



of inferiority. What is called Chinese cinnamon is darker coloured, rougher, denser, and breaks shorter. The taste is harsher, more pungent and ligneous, without the sweetness of the Ceylon cinnamon. These qualities depend on the *essential oil*, which may be separated by macerating the bark in alcohol, and distilling the tincture; in which process the oil does not rise with the spirit, but remains in the retort. From sixteen scruples of the bark Neumann obtained only two scruples and a half of oil. It has a pale gold colour, is heavier than water, perfectly soluble in alcohol, and has the odour and taste of cinnamon, concentrated. But both a heavy and a light oil is obtained from cinnamon, 80 lbs. yielding about five ounces of the former, and two of the latter.

Cinnamon *bark* is astringent, cordial and tonic. Hence it is found to be efficacious in alvine fluxes, proceeding from a weakened and languid state of the intestines, dyspepsia, and chronic nervous debility; and, when given in the form of watery infusion, it removes nausea, and checks vomiting. But the principal use of cinnamon is to cover the nauseous state of other remedies. The *oil* is a powerful stimulant and stomachic; and is used as such in cramps of the stomach, flatulent cholera, hiccup, and nervous languors. It is sometimes inserted into the hollow of a decayed tooth to allay the pain of tooth-ache.

The dose of the bark in powder is from ten grains to a drachm; that of the oil from one to three drops on a lump of sugar.

### PUDDING AND POTATOE SCHOOLS.

WE have no important task before us in the consideration of cheap schools. A system of humbugging has crept into society on this point, that deserves well the lash of public censure, and we will not spare it when we can use it.

In Yorkshire, a child can be what they call "*educated*," "*clothed*," and "*boarded*," for £18 per annum. Now let us take this specious pro-

mise to pieces. How much shall we say for

Schooling?—one guinea a quarter - - - 4 4 0  
Clothes—one suit a year 2 0 0

6 4 0

Leaving for living - 11 16 0

That is, about five shillings per week!!

Good God! how can a boy be fed for *five shillings* a-week, and LEAVE A PROFIT?

This accounts for the skinny, squabby, bloated, and pot-bellied boys we annually see arriving from Yorkshire. Puddings, potatoes, and broth, allow a profit even out of five shillings per week, for *economical* schoolmasters. Do our readers recollect the case of a boy with ophthalmia, which was brought before the courts of law some time since? This was a *Yorkshire* case. We take it on the broad principle that *eighteen guineas* per annum will not enable a schoolmaster to do justice to a pupil.

A hint or two on the subject will oblige us as well as the public.

### CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

#### CASE OF INDIGESTION.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

IN your very excellent, and useful publication, which I have taken in ever since its first number made its appearance; I have seen an article "*on Cough preceding Consumptions*," (it was in last week's number,) which has really alarmed me. I have been subject to a peculiar sort of cough for upwards of three years, which is as troublesome to me, as disagreeable to those in whose company I find myself; because every four or five seconds I am obliged to cough. It consists in a single exertion of the throat, to discharge a something which seems to have taken its station there; but notwithstanding the most violent exertion—no phlegm is produced, or if any, it consists in a cloudy, lead-coloured, very sub-



stantial phlegm, about the quantity of this mark O, and interspersed with black veins. As I feel this obstruction, or stimulus uninterruptedly in my throat, I am obliged to cough, or rather to make an exertion similar to that which I would make, had I a fishbone sticking in my throat. After having continued to do so for half an hour, I feel my lungs or breast, as if filled with air. I can scarcely breathe, and not heave a sigh, though I feel a great and in fact, the only relief in this. All the other symptoms attending the cough mentioned in your paper, have been regularly my companions during these three years; my countenance which was before not very florid, but of a healthy appearance, is now become pale; my eyes are hollow, dim, and the eyelids heavy and swollen. My voice which was formerly considered very good for an amateur, is now dying away; and a sort of melancholy has made itself master of my mind. I am twenty-eight years old, my occupation is literary; I am one day with another, engaged in writing eight hours of the day, and the rest of the day, either reading or arranging my thoughts for my writings of the following day. I sit sometimes up till one or two o'clock in the morning writing; but then after having retired to rest, I am far from finding it. The dreadful cough attacks me, breathing becomes almost impossible, and I think every moment to be suffocated for want of air. If slumber sinks upon my eyelids, it brings with it the most frightful images of the imagination, I start from my slumber with wildness, whilst my head is giddy, and I am neither awake nor asleep, and I shudder to close my eyes again. In this state, I remain sometimes till five or six in the morning, when I fall asleep for an hour or two, and then rise again to resume my occupations. The following day I feel an intolerable heaviness in my frame, all my limbs tremble, I cannot fetch breath, and am a prey to melancholy, and deep mental depression. These are not the only complaints to which I am subject;

I shall take the liberty to make you acquainted with another, on some future occasion.

Can you afford me some relief, I shall be eternally thankful to you, and you will have conferred another of the many kindnesses, and more than kindness, for which the public is already under obligations to you. Not being possessed of any medical or anatomical knowledge, and being a foreigner besides, I fear I have not explained myself with sufficient perspicuity, and therefore subjoin my address, in case you should feel inclined to favour me with a reply either through the medium of your paper, or directly to myself. I am with the greatest regard for your talents as a physician, and your philanthropy as a man,—Sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

A. C. W.

I forgot to tell you that I am in the habit of smoking and taking snuff, I think the latter influences in stimulating my throat, which I have observed by leaving off taking snuff for a few days, when the obstruction was not so very troublesome, though the cough no less. I have only been in the habit of taking snuff these last twelve months, and during that time I left off for several months.

#### EDITOR'S REMARKS.

In the above case, indigestion is the proximate cause, and sedentary habits with over-action of the mind, the remote cause. We insert it because we are convinced that there is not a more common species of affliction than this in London. Debility is the first consequence, and from this the system becomes more liable than before to particular affections; in this case an irritation of the internal membrane of the trachea, or windpipe, is evident.—We would recommend the writer to go more into amusement, to take a little wine daily, and to take every morning, a table-spoonful of the decoction of bark, acidulated with sulphuric acid; also a glass of soda-water and milk, in the middle of the day—attending to the bowels by eight or ten grains of rhubarb, every day or two, and the shower bath in the morning.





### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

Our "Annals" would indeed be remiss if we did not register the following curious trial. It proves what sort of fellows those are who hold their qualifications merely from the toleration which the apothecaries act affords. Such is Mr. Zebedee Dunkin, the fellow we shewed up last week.

### MEDICAL PRACTICE!

STAFFORDSHIRE ASSIZE.

*Apothecaries' Company v. Warburton.*

At these assizes the following curious case came on; and we cannot resist the inclination of extracting a portion of it for our columns, as it affords one of the most ludicrous specimens of quack practice extant. We copy it from the "Staffordshire Advertiser."

Mr. Dauncey, in stating the case on the part of the plaintiffs, observed, that they were performing an unpleasant duty in bringing this action, but it was a duty they were bound to perform; it was necessary that they should not permit persons of the description of the defendant to administer to the lower and most ignorant class of people what they called relief. This defendant was the son of a man who, in the early part of his life, had been a gardener, but had since set up in the dignified and honourable profession of a cow-leech. The defendant continued as part of his father's family until after the year 1815, in which year an act was passed, intitled, "An Act for the better regulating the practice of Apothecaries," which began with reciting the charter granted by King James the First to the company of apothecaries, and which charter had been confirmed by an act of the 15th of the same king (James). And by the 14th section of an act passed in 1815, it was declared, that from and

after the first day of August, 1815, it should not be lawful for any person (except persons already in practice as such) to practice as an apothecary in any part of England and Wales, unless he or they should have been examined by the Court of Examiners in the act mentioned, and to have received the certificate directed by that act. He (Mr. Dauncey) believed the defendant in this cause had never been examined by that Court, nor did he at all expect such a defence would be set up. The result therefore would be, that if the defendant justified his practising at all, he must do it under the words *except persons already practising as such*. The question then would be, whether the defendant was or was not in practice as an apothecary before the first day of August, 1815; and here he must observe, it was quite clear that the act in that exception contemplated persons only who were actually and bona fide acting as apothecaries before that period, and not such as practised as assistants to apothecaries; much less the case of the defendant, who before that time had merely acted as an assistant to his father, who was a cow-leech. This action was, to the Company for whom he appeared, a most unpleasant duty, but it was a duty they considered themselves bound to perform. They were now to prove that the defendant had acted as an apothecary since August, 1815; and to shew how many instances there were of his so acting, that it might be ascertained to how many penalties the defendant was liable:—the charge against him was, that he had since August, 1815, acted as an apothecary: and Mr. Dauncey said he should call witnesses to prove his having so acted, for each of which acts he was liable to a penalty of £20. From 1811 to 1815, the father was acting as a cow-leech, partly at Macclesfield and partly at Newcastle: at the end of 1815, the family of the father followed him to Newcastle, and the defendant continued part of that family until 1817, when he went to Betley, and had since acted as an apothecary. The question for the jury to decide would be, What was practising as an apothecary so as come within the meaning of the exception—"except



persons already practising as such?" and for the defendant to do this, he must prove he was acting as an apothecary, and not as an assistant to a cow-leech.

Mr. Jervis.—I see there are two counts on each case, and the whole penalties sought to be recovered go to £700. We rest our defence on the exception, and will admit the first count—that the defendant has acted as an apothecary since 1815. This, I presume, is all you wish.

Mr. Dauncey.—This is not a vindictive action, we shall be satisfied with one penalty; we only wish to shew that persons of this description will not be permitted to practise.

Several witnesses were here called to prove the practice of the defendant.

Mr. Jervis, for the defendant, commenced by observing on a joke made by Mr. Campbell, relative to Warburton, sen. judging of complaints by water, and said it was singular that the plaintiffs had thought it necessary, in the county of Stafford, to have a special jury to decide whether this defendant had practised as an apothecary prior to the 1st of August, 1815; and (addressing himself to the tales) said, "If you, gentlemen of the common jury, should find yourselves incapable of deciding such a question, you will in this case have the aid of special jurymen." He had admitted (to save the valuable time of the Court) that he, defendant, had practised as an apothecary since the time mentioned by the act. The plaintiffs had expressed their wish not to ask for large penalties. The whole number of penalties sued for amounted to thirty-five of £20. each, making an aggregate of £700. The first penalty sued for was for administering medicines to one Owen Benyon. This fact he (Mr. Jervis) had admitted, but he should rest his defence on the exception, as had been suggested by his learned friend. They had heard of the defendant's father and his practice; if he was not entitled to act as an apothecary, the plaintiffs might have brought an action against him in this case. The jury were to look at the defendant, and what *he* had done, and not what his father had done. Mr. Dauncey had stated that the father was formerly a gardener, but there had

been no proof of this. There was proof that at Stockport, previous to 1811, he had practised as a grub-doctor, as he was called; from 1811 up to 1815, he had practised latterly and extensively as an apothecary at Macclesfield; it was in evidence that drugs amounting in price to £300 had been purchased by him in those three years from one druggist, besides what he had bought of others; for such a sum large quantities of drugs would be obtained. This action was brought in the name of the Apothecaries' Company, but it was not really their action; he would repeat that it was the action of the apothecaries in the neighbourhood, who jealous of, and hurt by, the professional success of the defendant, wished to put an end to his practice by this action. He thought he might venture to predict that they would find themselves mistaken, and that the best advertisement for the defendant, and which would add to the practice he had already obtained, would be a trial of this cause. Mr. Jervis said he wished he could bring the defendant himself before them, but they would recollect it was the abilities and practice of the young man, and not of his father, upon which they were called to decide. As to the joke, or rather attempt to joke, made by his learned friend (Mr. Campbell) on the father judging of diseases from the water of his patients, he would tell them that a very great man had made a large fortune from his success in that practice, and who always judged in that way; he meant Dr. Meyersbach.

The Judge here interrupted the learned counsel, and desired he would not quote as an authority the most arrant quack that ever infested this or any country, who came over from Germany with a nostrum which he pretended would cure the tooth-ache, and which he for some time offered for one shilling, until some one said to him, if you continue to sell at a shilling, you will do no good; ask half a guinea, and people will believe that it may be efficacious. He did so, found it answer his purpose, and then, without knowledge enough to enable him to feel a pulse, he set up as a physician, and pretended to judge of the complaints of those who were fools



enough to apply to him, by a sight of their water. On this subject there was a curious anecdote, which at some time he might relate to them (the counsel.)

The first witness called for the defence was

Mr. Arnold Warburton, the father of the defendant.—He has followed the practice of medicine about fifteen years; first at Dunham, since at Stockport, afterwards at Macclesfield; went to the latter place in August, 1811, took his son John to assist him in his business; should have put him to a manufacturer, but his son did not like the business. When he first went to Macclesfield, he took a house in Barn-street, from whence he removed into Water-courts; he there rented a house of Mr. Pickering; he left Macclesfield and went to Newcastle in February, 1815; he could not at first meet with a house in Newcastle that would suit him; he continued for some time to lodge and have rooms at the Three Tuns, kept by Joseph Robinson; he was backwards and forwards between Newcastle and Macclesfield while he had the rooms at Robinson's; he thinks the time he first went there was in the week after 'Castle races, which was the latter end of August or beginning of September, 1814; it was in February, 1815 that he went into the house he had taken; his son assisted him while he lived at Macclesfield; he practised there extensively as a surgeon, had a surgery in his house, and attended great numbers of people at his house, to whom he administered medicines; he went to some, and others came to him; he had sometimes large quantities of people with him, frequently more than fifty at a time. He afterwards married a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Pennington, at Betley, and afterwards settled at Betley; he settled there as soon as witness had taken an apprentice; he took young Master Hayse, who had married his daughter, as an apprentice. Defendant attended witness's patients, and received money for them; his son had what part of the money he pleased to be pleased with; witness took no

account of what money his son took; he was a very steady young man; when they were at Macclesfield, his son had taken great pains to acquire a knowledge of the business, and he had great opportunities of seeing a deal of business there; a great number of people whom witness attended were seen by defendant, afflicted with a variety of diseases, and thereby giving defendant an opportunity of seeing various treatment, and acquiring knowledge of his profession; he had similar opportunities at Newcastle. Witness went occasionally to Macclesfield after he went to reside at Newcastle, but he did not practise there after he gave up his house on the 29th October, 1814; he had no more to do with the business at Macclesfield after witness left; he did so afterwards at Newcastle, and has since at Betley. Witness did give medicines to cows, horses, and other animals, and practised besides extensively at Macclesfield.

Cross-examined by Mr. Dauncey, —who asked if he had always been a surgeon? Witness appealed to the judge whether this was a proper answer; his lordship had not heard any answer; Mr. Dauncey had put a question. Witness, "Must I answer it?"—Judge, "Yes, why do you object?" Witness, "I don't think it a proper answer."—Judge, "I presume you mean question, and I differ in opinion." The witness not answering, Mr. Dauncey repeated, have you always been a surgeon? Witness, "I am a surgeon."—Dauncey, "Can you spell the word you have mentioned?" Witness, "My Lord, is that a fair answer?"—Judge, "I think it a fair question." Witness, "S-y-u-r-g-u-n-t."—Mr. Dauncey, "I am unfortunately hard of hearing; have the goodness to repeat what you have said, Sir." Witness, "S-u-r-g-e-n-d."—Mr. Dauncey, "S—, what do you say next to S, Sir?" Witness, "S-y-u-r-g-u-n-d." Mr. Dauncey, "Very well, Sir, I am perfectly satisfied."—Judge, "As I take down the word, Sur—, please to favour me with it once more." Witness, "Surgunt."—Judge, "How, Sir?" Witness, "S-e-r-g-u-n-d."—Judge,



"Very well." Mr. Dauncey, "Sir, have you always been what you say; that word, I mean, which you have just spelt?" [a long pause.] Mr. Dauncey, "I am, afraid, Sir, you do not often take so much time to study the cases which come before you, as you do to answer my question." "I do not, Sir."—"Well, Sir, will you please to answer it!"—[a long pause, but no reply.]—"Well, what were you originally, Dr. Warburton?" Witness, "S-y-u-r-g-e-n-d."—"When you first took to business, what was that business; were you a gardener, Dr. Warburton?"—"S-u-r-g-e-u-t." "I do not ask you to spell that word again; but before you were of that profession, what were you?" "S-u-r-g-u-n-t."—Mr. Dauncey, "My Lord, I fear I have thrown a spell over this poor man, which he cannot get rid of." Judge, "Attend, witness; you are now to answer the questions put to you; you need not spell that word any more." Mr. Dauncey, "When was you a gardener?" Witness, "I never was." The witness then stated that he never employed himself in gardening; he first was a farmer, his father was a farmer. He (witness) ceased to be a farmer fifteen or sixteen years ago; he ceased because he had then learnt another business, that business which he now is.—"Who did you learn it off?" "Is that a proper question, my Lord?" "I see no objection to it." "Then I will answer it; I learnt it of Dr. Hulne, my brother-in-law; he practised the same as the Whitworth Doctors, and they were regular physicians."—Mr. Dauncey, "Where did they take their degrees?" Witness, "I don't believe they ever took a degree."—"Then were they regular physicians?" "No, I believe they were not; they were only doctors."—"Only doctors! were they doctors in law, physic, or divinity?" "They doctor'd cows and other things, and humans as well." "Doubtless as well; and you, I doubt not, you have doctor'd brute animals as well as human creatures?" "I have." Witness's son, the defendant, was first a manufacturer; that is, he

went to learn to weave. Witness did not put him out, he went of his own accord, but he did not like the business, and left these nine or ten years ago, or more. His son is now twenty-six years of age; he was only a few weeks at each place; he went to two places, but liked neither, the last was Ratcliffe's; he was a very few weeks there; he left there before witness went to Macclesfield, and has been in witness's family ever since till his marriage, about twelve months back. Witness had sent for him in 1815, to come to Newcastle; he thinks it was in July, 1815, that he sent for his son, and he did not come for some time; it might be a month or five weeks, or three weeks after that time before he came; his daughter, Elizabeth, was the first that came to him of his children; that might be a fortnight after he sent for them; it might be a fortnight after that when his other daughter came; the latter and his son came together. Mr. Dauncey, "That of course would make it August when your son came?" Witness, "I am not certain that I am correct as to the time; the house my son took at Macclesfield, was the one I had quitted belonging to Mr. Pickering."

Judge to Mr. Jervis.—Can you, Mr. Jervis, give any account of this young man's education in his profession, so as to take him out of the hands of his father? I doubt whether his father has sufficient knowledge to ascertain the proportion of the several drugs to compound a medicine either by avoirdupois or apothecaries weight.

Mr. Jervis.—My Lord, we cannot shew his being placed in situations where he could receive medical instruction out of his father's family. We conceive it is sufficient to shew that he had been in practice as an apothecary prior to the 1st of August, 1815. We did not think it necessary to shew that he was properly educated for the profession, but that he had practised before that time. Your Lordship is well aware that among all that practise, too many may be ignorant practitioners.



Judge to Witness.—“Did you ever make up any medicine by the prescription of a physician?” “I never did.” “Do you understand the characters they use for ounces, scruples, and drachms?” “I do not.” “Then you cannot make up their prescriptions from reading them.” “I cannot, but I can make up as good medicines in my way, as they can in theirs.” “What proportion does an ounce bear to a pound?” [A pause.] “There are sixteen ounces to the pound, but we do not go by any regular weight, we mix ours by the hand.” “Do you bleed?” “Yes.” “With a fleam or with a lancet?” “With a lancet.” “Do you bleed from the vein or from the artery?” “From the vein.” “There is an artery somewhere about the temples; what is the name of that artery?” “I do not pretend to have so much learning as some have.” “Can you tell me the name of that artery?” “I do not know which you mean.” “Suppose then I was to direct you to bleed my servant or my horse (which God forbid) in a vein, say for instance in the jugular vein, where should you bleed him?” “In the neck to be sure.”

Judge to Counsel.—Had this young man any part of his time unaccounted for, or if it could be shewn that he had been even a footman to an apothecary, and had afterwards practised before the time appointed, I would gladly have taken him to acquire a knowledge of his profession; but there is not a possibility of his attaining that knowledge here, in the situation in which he has been placed, and constantly continued. Where has been the capability of receiving instruction? This man appears evidently incapable of giving it. Look to the 5th sec. of this act, the recital of which sets forth that it is the duty of every person, using or exercising the art or mystery of an apothecary, to prepare with exactness, and to dispense such medicines as may be directed for the sick by any physician. Is it possible that this defendant could have done this with such an education?

Mr. Puller.—Your Lordship will admit there are many unlearned apo-

thecaries among those who do practise.

Judge.—I would take every thing as favourably for the young man as I properly can: but here we have ignorance greater perhaps than ever appeared in a court before, as the only medium of education which this defendant can possibly have received in his profession.

The Rev. Mr. Pennington.—Is the curate of Betley; the Defendant married one of his daughters: he thinks the marriage took place in October, 1817, but is not certain. Betley is a perpetual curacy, not a vicarage or rectory.—Defendant had been at witness's house, witness had seen him there after for twelve months or more before his marriage; had never seen him before he left Macclesfield. Did not consult him the first time he had medicine from him. Witness had been low and poorly for some time; the medicines he had received from regular medical men had not benefitted him, and his wife without his knowledge sent a labourer to Defendant, who sent a medicine which witness, though reluctant at first to do so, did take, and he fancied he received benefit from it; in fact it certainly did him good, and by persevering in taking such medicines as Defendant sent him, witness in about a month found himself perfectly well. Witness has never seen Defendant make up a prescription, but Defendant can make up. He has plenty of books, Bell's Surgery, and other medical book. Witness has known Defendant sit up till one or two in the morning reading such books; he resided in witness's house for some time after his marriage, and witness had frequent opportunities of seeing him read; he would probably have continued longer to reside with witness, but such great numbers of people came to him, that witness could not bear the frequent interruptions to his avocations, and defendant therefore took a house to himself in Betley, where he and his wife now reside. Defendant is now sufficiently acquainted with Latin to understand the names of drugs, he has their names on the drawers in his shop.

Cross-examined.—Witness knows but little of medicine; he can read



many physician's prescriptions but cannot read all. Defendant came directly from his father's house at Newcastle to the house of witness at Batley. He cannot say he never saw defendant make up a physician's prescription during the first half year he was at Batley; witness assisted defendant in learning the Latin language; he began to learn defendant in 1818. Defendant had learnt a little Latin before; witness believes defendant had learnt the Latin grammar before he began to learn him, but he began with him in grammar again; he seemed to have forgot what he had before learnt. Witness never heard defendant read a prescription; he put defendant to learn Latin as soon as defendant came to his house; can't say defendant has had many prescriptions to make up.

Re-examined.—Witness was usher in Mr. Woolfe's school at Dillhorn many years ago, and educated Sir John Fenton Boughey, till he went to the University. He knows Dr. Northen. Defendant has had prescriptions from Dr. Northen; he can't say they came immediately from the doctor, but the doctor attended patients of the defendant's, and they have delivered to him the doctor's prescriptions. Witness believes defendant has sufficient knowledge to make up a prescription now.

Many witnesses were called to prove defendant's practice before August 1, 1815.

Mr. Dauncey.—If instead of twenty or thirty more witnesses they had produced ten times 10,000 who had bought medicines of defendant, it would only have proved there were so many fools in the neighbourhood—the defendant had also been produced [soon after the father had closed his evidence, the son had come into court and sat near the witness box, and was pointed out to the court and jury by his counsel] why he could not say, unless it was that his appearance was so youthful as almost to deny credibility to the document attesting his age. The father of the defendant had said, that he had given instruction to his son in medicine. Was it possible he could be instructed by that man? The jury had an opportunity of seeing the father; they could judge of his

ability for instructing his son by the exhibition of him in court. The act began to be operative from and after the 1st August, 1815, but exempts those who had been practising as such before that period. In what way had this defendant been practising? They found from the evidence which defendant's counsel had laid before them, that the father went out on a voyage of discovery to Newcastle: he wishes to examine the state of the country before he embarks his family; he therefore takes only the wife of his bosom—they first take up their abode in a public-house; but when he finds that—patients (he had almost let slip another word) are to the full as numerous at Newcastle as at Macclesfield, perhaps more so, as he gave it the preference, what does he then? Why he takes a house in Newcastle, and immediately sends for his son to Macclesfield. The son not having performed all that his father had left him to do, that is to collect in the debts, (for they had it in evidence, and that from his own mouth that this was the purpose for which he stayed in Macclesfield) he waits a month or six weeks longer, but one sister goes immediately, and the defendant and the other sister followed at the end of that time. The father tells you this was in July, the daughter tells you it was in April; it is no matter which; but good Mrs. Booth, whose son he attended at Macclesfield, says that it was in May, and all in the same year. The son would have the jury believe, he was emancipated when his father left Macclesfield, yet the father returns every now and then to see how they go on at Macclesfield, and as soon as he gets a house in Newcastle, the son and daughters (who had all been emancipated in a similar way) are sent for, and again form part of the father's family. But Mr. Pickering tells you, the defendant was emancipated, for he had made a collateral agreement with him for the house, forsooth. It is very probable the father might say to Mr. Pickering, Sir, I am going to Macclesfield, on a little roving expedition, but you need not be alarmed about your rent, for my son will be in the



house; he is to collect the money due to me, and he will pay you out of it. It was very probable that such a collateral agreement as this might be made. When the taylor proved that the father found clothes for his son to September, 1817, his learned friend had said, that this was trumperv evidence; was it so? Did not that circumstance clearly shew, that till that period he continued to be part of his father's family. There could not, he conceived, be the slightest doubt of his being part of that family from 1811, to the time of his marriage with the daughter of the Rev. gentleman, who had that day appeared as a witness for him. Could any one suppose, admitting for an instant that the defendant had really been emancipated from his father, that the following year such an one as that father could be acting as an apothecary in the meaning of that act? The act was passed for the purpose of preventing ignorant and improper persons, from acting as apothecaries, except persons already in practice as such. Was the succeeding a man who dealt out medicines to cows, horses, and dogs, as well (to use his own words) as to *humans*, succeeding to the business of an apothecary? Even veterinary surgeons, of whom they had heard so high an eulogium, were they apothecaries under the meaning of this act? Much less a cow and dog doctor? This father says, that he practises by another method to that followed by medical men. They had heard that Doctor Warburton had pretended to cure people by seeing their water; he would take the liberty of relating to them an anecdote of the doctor, whose name had been mentioned by his learned friend: a person went to him with some water in a phial; the doctor looked at it, and said, why the person who made this is with child; the man simpered a little, and said that cannot be the case, the party who made that water is a male. No matter for that; said the doctor, the person who made this water is with child.

Judge—It is a pity that any part of that story should be lost; a very

learned physician, who had heard of this quack pretending to judge of a complaint by a sight of the water, sent some which had been discharged from a stallion, and to expose his ignorance, had with the knowledge of several gentlemen, sent it to this pretended doctor, and the result was as you have stated.

Mr. Dauncey—His learned friend, the Staffordshire counsel, had seemed rather displeased that his learned friend, the Scottish counsel, should attempt a jest. The Scotch were naturally of a more serious mind than the English; but if any one of them should wish to forego a little of his natural gravity, and amuse himself with a harmless jest, he could not see why it should call down so severe a rebuke, unless indeed the Staffordshire counsel felt jealous of his province in the land of wit, being invaded by his northern neighbour.—The question was solely this, was the defendant previous to the 1st August, 1815, practising as such an apothecary as the act contemplated? Whether or not the father permitted the son to receive part of his gains, still the family were maintained out of one fund. Were the daughters and sons emancipated by being left at Macclesfield? It was in evidence that the son had stopped there to get in the debts due to the father; it was as clear as noon day that there was no intention of the defendant becoming the head of a separate establishment from that of his father; the son and daughters continued at Macclesfield just so long as sufficed for the purpose for which he continued there, and till the father could have a house to receive them at Newcastle; no sooner is that taken, than the elder daughter is sent for, and rejoins her father; the son and the younger daughter stay a few weeks longer, and then follow the sister. Was the education received by the defendant before 1st August, 1815. (for his subsequent acquirements were out of the question) such as to make it proper he should be turned loose on a public, already too much a prey to quacks and impostors? The jury must believe



that for the time he remained at Macclesfield after October 1814, he was acting as an apothecary on his own account; if they did so believe, they would give a verdict for the defendant; if they did not believe that he acted as an apothecary contemplated by that act, their verdict must under this act be for the plaintiffs in one penalty, which was all they asked, their object being merely to prevent improper persons from acting as apothecaries.

Mr. Baron Garrow—In summing up, observed, that this was a question of considerable importance to the defendant in the cause, on whose future prospects it must necessarily have great influence; and it was also one of the last importance to the public. The jury were called upon (and for the first time) to decide upon the question whether under this act the defendant was entitled to the exemptions in it.—This could only be done in this case, by defendant's shewing that before the 1st of August, 1815, he practised as an apothecary. His Lordship had no hesitation in saying, that every one who practised physic, by running about the country as a quack and empiric, was not entitled to claim the benefit of the exemption in the act. In his opinion, the father was not exempt under that act, but the son was in a different situation to the father, and the question they had to decide was, if the son acted as an apothecary before the 1st of August, 1815.—Pickering had stated, that on the 29th of October, 1814, the father, who had previously rented his house, had on that day, given it up to his son, who had subsequently been tenant; that he also had attended him (Pickering) as his patient. There were other proofs of the son attending persons as his patients. The father had gone to Newcastle, and there his business had become such that he had sent for his son to Newcastle. It appeared that the son carried on the business at Macclesfield as the father had done. His Lordship could not lay down any such law as that no man must practise as an apothecary who was not extensively learned; but the

jury must consider what was contemplated by that act as constituting an apothecary. The fifth section of the act recited it to be the duty of every person using or exercising the art and mystery of an apothecary to prepare, with exactness, and to dispense such medicines, &c. and the fourteenth section inflicts a penalty on such as practise without being properly qualified, (except persons already practising as such.) The question was, if the defendant was acting in such way as was intended by that act. He is the son of a man more ignorant than the most ignorant that they had ever before heard examined in any court: talk to him of the proportionate parts of weight, he says he knows nothing of them, he acts by hand only. Was this man qualified for professing any science, more particularly one in which the health, and even the lives of the public were involved? Yet through such an impure medium alone had the defendant received his knowledge of this profession. There was not the least proof of the defendant having for a single minute been in a situation to receive instruction from any one really acting as an apothecary. If the jury thought that the defendant had acted as an apothecary before the time mentioned in the act, they would find a verdict for him; but otherwise they would find for the plaintiffs in one penalty.—The jury almost instantly returned a verdict for the plaintiffs, damages £20.



#### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*The brain of an ox entirely petrified.*—A French surgeon lately produced an ox's brain before the Society of Medicine. It was not only petrified, but acquired the hardness of flint. The



Butcher with all his might could not cleave it asunder. It appeared like a piece of rock-work. What is here very remarkable, this ox was both fat and vigorous, so as to break loose four times from the butcher; whereas the only instance of a petrified ox's brain on record is that of Bartholin's ox, killed at Stockholm; but that ox was very lean, appeared sickly, went all ways with his head down, which determined the owner to part with him. This and some other like instances of foetus's born without a head, would induce one to think that the brain is not so absolutely necessary for life as is universally believed.

*Hydrophobia.*—The subtilty of the virus of a mad-dog is very surprising; Cæl. Aurelianus assures us, his very breath is sufficient to communicate the infection. Pierus says,

that a surgeon upon dissecting a mad dog was infected by the very vapor that exhaled from his body: and Palmarius assures us, that the very breath, or kissing a person that was mad, would communicate the infection. He related the history of a peasant that was mad; when he was dying, he earnestly requested he might be permitted to take leave of his children; he no sooner had kissed them than he died quite suffocated: these were instantly infected, and died seven days after, mad like their father.—Mathiolus says, he knew two persons who were infected by the slaver of the mad-dog, though they were no way wounded or bit by him; and Mattheus de Gradib, knew a man that became mad, by putting his hand into a mad dog's mouth, though the dog neither bit or hurt him.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

P. T. Z. has had a letter addressed to him.

W. H. L.—Drop a little oil into the ears at night, and cover the head and ears warmly.

Our advice upon corns requested by an anonymous Correspondent is this:—Soak the feet well in warm water, then cut the surface off, and pick out the hard substance. A plaster of Diachylon, on thin leather, put on the toe after, will serve.

HENRY WHEELER KING.—The zinc could not be decomposed by the oxalic acid. We think an emetic of zinc proper in all cases; but in that when oxalic acid is taken, there cannot be much hope.

X. Y. Z. should inject into the nostrils a solution of sulphate of zinc, ten grains to an ounce. Let it be done three times a-day.

AQUARIUS.—The springs he alludes to are chalybeate, but now superseded by those of a stronger nature. We mean to give a paper on mineral waters.

P. E. T.—Use the tonic plan, page 338, MEDICAL ADVISER.

VERITAS.—We know that Norton is in the habit of beating his assistants, but if he would leave off killing his patients we would forgive him.

A GREAT ENEMY TO QUACKS, we thank.

VERITAS, Charlotte Row, declares that "when T. Trueman will assume a more tangible form, he will meet him." We suppose it is Zebedee Dunkin who thus writes. He declares that the attack upon Mr. Dunkin in our last Number, was "*cowardly* as it was *false*."—We think it was neither, and request Mr. Trueman's reply.

Miss J. W.—We are not advocates for water-drinking, nor wine-bibbing;—moderation in both.

A. T.—an emetic would serve.

J. W. T.—WM. WORMWOOD, and T. M. must send addresses.

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AND

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VOL. II.



## CURING BY SUPERSTITION.

(See plate.)

EVEN to this day, in the East the strongest superstition in the cure of diseases exist, as an article in our first number, communicated to us by the surgeon who attended the daughter of the Dey of Algiers will fully prove. In former times the people were so besotted that when a poor sick victim should be left quietly to die, or if it pleased Providence to recover him, he was dragged to a public temple dedicated to Esculapius, and there "prayed over" till he expired, when perhaps a few spoonsfull of medicine might have saved his life! The stupid people who follow Hohenloe are just as bad.

## LEPROSY.

(Continued from our last.)

IN leprosy all communication with the diseased should be forbidden; and we are sorry to say that it is too much the practice in the West Indies to turn leper slaves loose amongst the healthy, by which means the disease is perpetuated.

It often happens that the skin of people affected with leprosy in this country, becomes so tender that they cannot bear the touch. In such cases a strong infusion of leaves of digitalis fresh and bruised, with a small quantity of goulard water will prove beneficial.

Harrowgate water has been strongly recommended in this disease, and we think it a useful remedy, not only in this but in most diseases of the skin. A warm bath should be used every day while taking the Harrowgate waters, and the patient warmly wrapped up in bed after each.

The warm springs at Aix-la-chapelle are of great benefit in leprosy and other cutaneous eruptions.

Dr. Kinglake informs us that by washing the patient with a weak solution of sulphuric acid, and administering internally ten drops daily, great relief may be obtained.

DISEASES COMMUNICATED.  
FROM HORSES.

THE following extract from the Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal corroborates our statement made in an early number of the "MEDICAL ADVISER" of *Horses' Itch*.

"Several cases have been mentioned in the foreign Journals, showing the connexion between the diseases of farcy and glanders in horses, and a disease produced by the matter of them in the human body; but the accounts were neither well authenticated, nor detailed in a satisfactory manner. In London, some years ago, a veterinary surgeon contracted a disease from a farcy horse, with ulceration in the part of the arm infected, and what are called farcy buds extending up the limb. Of this disease he was supposed to have nearly recovered, but relapsing, he soon afterwards died. Lately, a patient offered himself at one of our hospitals with a sore arm, as he said, from a wound, and the touching the leg of a farcyed horse. This man is still here ill, but I do not know the particular state of his health. From the matter of his ulcerated arm an ass was inoculated in the leg. The effect was a diseased leg, supposed to be the farcy; for, in some days further, symptoms of glanders appeared, of which disease the animal died. On dissection, among other effects was ulceration of the septum narium, as in other cases of that disease."

## ON ANIMAL STRUCTURE.

WHETHER there be a perfect chain and gradation of existence, some will doubt; that is to say, when the naturalist has arranged animals according to their exterior appearance, the anatomist deranges his ideas, by exhibiting, in the internal structure, transitions and gradations which he did not contemplate, and principles of arrangement which he had not foreseen. But this does not controvert the general principle, that there is a chain of existence through the whole of na-



ture. It only throws us back, mortified that we do not perfectly comprehend the system ; a conclusion which, however humbling, is exactly what man experiences in the pursuit of every other department of knowledge, whether the subject of his contemplation be the earth he inhabits, the creatures which partake it with him, or his own faculties and nature, and his condition in creation. And let us make the best of this truth ; let us view it as promising to us an inexhaustible field for enquiry, and an ever new hope of discovery.

In respect to animals, there are principles in operation, and a structure of organization, which extend, with a certain resemblance, through the whole. There is a system of parts to give form ; there is a substance the seat of irritability ; there are parts the seat of sensibility and enjoyment ; and the powers or endowments of those parts, however different, are supplied through the same means. They have a circulation of fluids more or less perfect (as we use the expression) ; they receive new matter under the influence of the same appetites ; and they perfect or animalize it, and appropriate it, by similar organs.

In all the more perfect animals we have a texture of bones, constituting the skeleton, and giving form and stature ; both bearing up the soft parts and protecting them, and at the same time receiving the influence, and adjusting the effects, of the contractile parts of the body : for the bones are moulded with a regard to the motions to be performed, and their shapes give a direction to the efforts of the muscles.

The muscles constitute, properly, the fleshy part of the body. They consist of a fibrous texture, and are possessed of a peculiar animal and living power of contraction : in them, motion is originated by the influence of nerves ; and by their operation on the bones, the motions and agency of the body are produced.

The nerves are like white cords, which are every where traceable through the body, where sensibility

and motion can be perceived. They extend betwixt the brain and the muscular frame, combine the muscles in their actions on the bones and joints, and convey to them, the influence of the will.

But these muscles and nerves have powers peculiar to them as living parts ; and all living properties are propagated and continued through the influence of the circulating blood : so that, although in the nerves, muscles, and bones, we see all that is necessary to the mechanism of the frame, we find every where accompanying them, arteries, veins, and lymphatics, which are necessary to their constitution as living parts.

To knit the bones together, and form the articulations, to be a bed and proper support for the muscles, to constitute a general bond of union betwixt bones, muscles, nerves, and blood-vessels—a certain cellular texture is necessary. This common cellular substance extends over the whole frame, unites the rudest parts, as the bones, and sustains the most delicate vessels, and such as are not visible to the naked eye ; it constitutes, therefore, a very large proportion of the body, and is common to all animals.

Still, in what is here described, we have only the common ‘ texture of the frame of animal bodies ; and suppose them so constituted and possessed of their endowments, to feel or suffer, to re-act and to move symmetrically, how are these powers to be continued, and the delicate textures to be preserved ? This consideration leads to the second division of the anatomy, the viscera, the organs for the reception and assimilation of new matter.

To the circumstances of volition and locomotion, are owing the necessity for an alimentary canal. The vessels of vegetables, extended in their roots, draw nourishment from the soil ; but animals must have these vessels and absorbing mouths internal, and the nutritious matter conveyed to them through an intestinal canal. In this canal, various processes are performed, suiting the contained matter to its



new condition, and fitting it to be received into the living vessels, and gradually assimilating it to the condition of the circulating blood. In man, the food requires no preparation but of mastication, and is directly carried into a digesting stomach. Digestion is the first and the most essential change wrought upon the food : after that it is sent into the intestines, and subjected to the operation of certain secreted fluids, which separate, and, as it were, refine the pure and nutritious fluid of digestion. It is then subjected to the absorbent mouths of the lacteals of the intestines, by a process as curious as any to be observed in the animal functions, and incapable of being explained on the common principles of fluids acting on dead matter out of the body. By the lacteals, the fluid destined to supply the waste of the body is carried into the circulating system.

The circulating system consists of heart, arteries, and veins, a set of tubes continuous throughout, which transmit the blood through the whole body. The blood is sent outward by the arteries, and returns by the veins, and thus moves in a continual stream, urged on by the contraction of the containing tubes and cavities.

In animals which have a circulation, the blood is a vehicle which is constantly receiving from the alimentary canal, what it furnishes to all parts of the body for their growth. It is in its distribution to the extremities of the arteries that it effects those purposes of nutrition. In the very lowest animals, some physiologists have persuaded themselves that the vessels carry the fluid directly from the stomach to the parts of the frame, to nourish them. But in the more perfect animals, we know that it is not so.

The new fluid which has come from the organs of digestion and assimilation, is not fit for the purposes of nutrition, until it has suffered the influence of the lungs. Nor is the blood, which returns from the body by the veins, capable of sustaining the endowments or properties which distinguish the

different textures as living parts, until it be submitted to the same operation.

Lungs, therefore, are an essential part of the organic functions of all living beings. Vegetables and those animals which have no true circulation, respire through the whole of their surface, or they have the air admitted into the interior of their bodies through different foramina, and by air-vessels, which accompany the blood-vessels in their distribution to the body. It is a beautiful display, to see minute tubes distributing air and mingling with those carrying blood, as if they were as necessary to the health and exercise of the living properties. And so it is proved by the survey of animated nature, to be in some way essential to the existence of life, that the blood and the pure air shall mutually influence each other.

In the more perfect animals, the lungs admit the air into contact with the blood : they consist of innumerable cells, having connexion with the wind-pipe or trachea, and by the muscular apparatus of the chest or thorax, these cells are expanded and compressed alternately ; so that the atmospheric air is alternately permitted to press or sink into these cells in inspiration, and is again discharged in expiration. To the cells of the lungs, a grand division of the circulating system of vessels is transmitted : arteries carrying the blood to them, and veins returning that blood again to the heart. And by means of these vessels the blood in the lungs is exposed to the influence of the atmospheric air, and through its influence it is purified.

This is the meaning of what is termed the double circulation, and the double heart ; for in the higher and warm-blooded animals, there is a heart consisting of two cavities for receiving the blood from the body and transmitting it to the lungs, and there is another heart of two cavities for receiving the blood from the lungs and transmitting it to the body.

These four cavities are tied together by the interlacement of their



muscular fibres; and their walls being animated by the same nerves, are in every respect combined, and subject to the same excitement; so that as the principal force of circulation is in the heart, (for so we call the union of the four cavities,) the circulation in the body and the circulation in the lungs are regulated by the heart's excitement, and always correspond.

The air respired must contain oxygen, or vital air; the air returned from the lungs is loaded with carbonic acid gas. The blood which had received the operation of the oxygen upon it was venous, dark-coloured, and unfit for the offices of life; but, on returning from the lungs, it has parted with its carbon,—it has become purer in colour; it is the bright vermilion-coloured blood which, from its being transmitted through the body by the arteries, is called arterial blood.

No animals respire by a particular organ except those that have a real circulation of the blood; because, in them, the heart and vessels are so ordered, that no blood is transmitted to the body, unless the whole or part has been subjected to the offices of the lungs and purified, and made capable not merely of conveying the nutriment and material of the bodily frame, but also of supporting the vital energies, whatever these may be. Whether it is the nerve which has to feel, or the muscle to contract, no quality of life can be long supported in the organ without the supply and actual contact of the pure or arterial blood.

In this introductory survey of the animal economy, we perceive that the functions may be divided into three distinct orders.

We perceive that if animals required no support, and if they held an independent existence, the faculties of sensation and motion would suffice, and nerves and muscles would constitute the whole active frame. These are the functions which anatomists call the animal functions, by which we might suppose the lower properties of our

nature were meant; but the term is used in contradistinction to vegetable life, which enjoys neither sense nor motion.

In opposition to the animal functions, are the vital functions, by which are meant, those which serve for the preservation and renovation of the machine; such as the offices of digestion, absorption, circulation, respiration, and the excretions.

Finally, the duration of each individual is defined and limited. There is a continual change and renovation of the frame, an intestinal motion, a separation and an absorption of its particles, by which the body is ever new; but the life, the active principle, suffers change in infancy, youth, maturity, and the debility of age and death. Such is the law of animal existence. By which we see the necessity of a system of superadded parts, and a third order of functions: organs of generation, by which the individuals that perish, are replaced by others, and by which the existence of each species of animals is maintained.

On the whole, and surveying what is common to all animals, we perceive,—and all men who do not allow their passions to interfere with their philosophical opinions, must acknowledge,—that there is a principle of life which holds those bodies which enjoy it, subjected to a different law from inanimate matter; that the principal character of this power is to withdraw the bodies it animates, from the influence of those mere chemical affinities, to which, from the multiplicity of their component parts, their mixture, moisture, and temperature, they would have a strong tendency, and to which they are immediately exposed on death, and whereby their textures are reduced to their original elements.

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#### NECESSITY OF CLEANLINESS TO HEALTH.

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VARIOUS and numerous are the causes which produce ill health. Man continually lies open to the devastations of disease; his frame is not proof against the inroads it makes on the



constitution. The air, the climate, the season of the year, yea, almost every period, needs to be guarded against, which he should endeavour to render as harmless as possible. The air by its humidity, the climate by its warmth or coldness, and other accidental causes, may, unless care be taken, be productive of considerable injury to the system; these the foresight of the reflecting may in many instances avert, and render void their injurious tendency. By trifling attention; for instance, in cold and damp seasons, by extra covering for the body; in sultry seasons, by avoiding chilly draughts; but seeking the coolest even temperament by proper purgatives and cleansers of the blood at convenient intervals. By such means, a lingering and painful sickness may probably be prevented. No one thing scarcely contributes more to the retaining the body in a healthful state, than by paying attention to cleanliness. How many disorders of a filthy nature are contracted by the slovenly and negligent? In the abodes of sloth and penury, how often is seen the most nauseous of diseases, solely owing to not giving the necessary attention to cleanliness? Surely in this respect the humblest and the poorest individual, would they take the proper pains, might be as wholesome in their persons and their dwellings as the rich; water is easily procured; it contracts no expenses, but flows as freely to the needy as the wealthy. Uncleanliness is not necessarily connected with poverty; a little exertion would remedy many of the evils which the but too indolent poor have to struggle with. Their children at times, are subjects scarce fit to meet the eye, wallowing in the dirty abodes of their parents, who, feeling probably little or no interest about them, permit them to go day after day without the necessary application of soap and water, permitting them to live in idleness, contracting ill habits, too often copied from the parents, (whose example, in many instances are highly injurious); they are brought up in all the wretchedness of infamy, instill-

ing a slovenly and uncleanly habit, which fixes itself, deeply rooted, in their characters; their lives become one continued scene of wretchedness, coupled with ignorance and disease; scarcely ever rising above the level of their birth, they become the refuse of society.

Cleanliness is absolutely necessary to health. Many a slightly contracted disorder might probably be averted in its direful course, by a strict attention to this duty, for a duty it is;—a duty due both to ourselves and to society, and to our Maker no less so. Does he, think you, (you who heed not this duty), like to behold the creatures whom he has formed in his own express image, the glory of the creation, and the lord of it, too, omitting to pay what he has created due attention, neglecting to preserve it free from what may dishonour it, permitting it to become the prey of dirt and slovenly disorder? No! it is a direct insult offered to its all-wise Creator. Therefore has he ordained it, that the abominable sloth which will not be at the trouble to remove what may tend to injure the vigour, health, and beauty of the body, shall become the authors of their own punishment, by the diseases which such conduct never fails to contract.

Much would it benefit society were those who employ the lowest and poorest ranks in life (who are the most subject to neglect cleanliness) to choose such only who pay attention to the duty of which we have been treating; they would find it would produce attention to cleanliness, seeing they could not obtain employment without it; and their employers would have the pleasure of knowing that they would be benefiting their dependents in a twofold way, by providing for the health of their bodies, as well as enabling them to procure the means by which they support life.

T. N.

#### SWELLED FEET.

WHEN the feet swell it is a sign of debility, either general or partial;



except in cases of pregnancy. In such cases a bandage should be put on moderately tight, from the toe upwards, giving a uniform degree of pressure. In such cases, nine times out of ten, the digestive organs will be found deranged—perhaps the liver. We would advise in these cases two of the following pills every day:—

Of squill pill and extract of colycinth each half a drachm.

Of calomel a scruple.

Of digitalis ten grains, mixed and made into twenty pills.

These pills are good in every case of dropsy.

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### PERSPIRATION.

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IN a state of perspiration the surface of the body is colder than at any other time, for this reason: the fluid is secreted for the purpose of bathing the skin, and is in itself cold, thus counteracting the excess of heat generated in the body, either by exertion or otherwise. When however the shirt becomes wet by it, it should be changed, for it keeps up a greater degree of cold than nature intended, by retaining such a quantity of the perspiratory fluid.

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### DATES—A NEW REMEDY.

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A Correspondent from Alexandria has communicated to us that the *date* taken fasting is a sure promoter of health, strength, and appetite. It is used there as such, and we see no cause to doubt its efficacy. Dr. Morrier, of Montpellier, recommends dates as an article of diet in scrofula.

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### GARLIC—ITS PROPERTIES.

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GARLIC is dug up for use in the month of August, then cleaned and dried in the sun, and preserved in bunches in a dry place. In this state the exterior membrane is of a dirty white colour, and of a withered aspect; but the bulbs, which are called *cloves*, are white, succulent, and juicy. On drying, they lose nine parts in fifteen of their weight.

All the parts of the plant, but particularly the bulbs, have a

pungent offensive odour, and an acrimonious biting taste. These properties depend on an essential oil, that can be obtained separate by distillation with water; of a thick and ropy consistence, a yellow colour, heavier than water, and possessing, in an eminent degree, the sensible qualities of the garlic. It blisters the skin when applied to it, and strikes a black colour when triturated with oxide of iron. Simple coction with water renders garlic mild and inert. The acrid principle is obtained also by expression; and it is in a less degree extracted by water, by alcohol, and by acetic acid. The odour is so penetrating, that when garlic is applied to the soles of the feet it is perceived in the breath, the urine, and the perspiration. From 1406 parts of fresh garlic, Cadet obtained 520 of mucilage, 37 of albumen, 48 of fibrous matter, and 801 of water by estimate. Bouillon la Grange found sulphur also, with vegetable albumen, and sugar.

Garlic is stimulent, diaphoretic, expectorant, diuretic, and anthelmintic, when exhibited internally; and rube-facient when externally applied.

It has been successfully given in intermittents, and in fevers of the typhoid type. If the body be kept warm during its use, it acts powerfully by diaphoresis. It has long been esteemed a valuable remedy in pituitous asthma, chronic catarrh, flatulent cholic, calculus, and dropsies; and as a preventative of worms. Externally, it is applied bruised to the soles of the feet, in the coma of typhus; and in confluent small-pox when the determination to the head is considerable. A poultice made of it is a good resolvent of indolent tumours. A clove of it, wrapped in cotton or gauze, or a few drops of the juice introduced into the external ear, is said to be extremely efficacious in atonic deafness; and applied to the pubis as a poultice in retention of urine, owing to a want of action in the bladder, it sometimes is effectual in procuring its discharge. The juice is also applied, united with oil, to herpetic eruptions.

Garlic may be exhibited in sub-



stance, the whole clove or pieces of it being dipped in oil and swallowed; or it may be formed into pills. The expressed juice also is given mixed with sugar; or the bulb may be infused in milk, which was Rosenstein's mode of administering it to children afflicted with worms. It is frequently united with calomel in the form of pill or bolus, in hydropic cases. An ointment is formed by mixing the juice with oil. The bruised bulb has also been used as a suppurative.

An overdose, or the too liberal use of it as a condiment, is apt to occasion head-ache, flatulence, thirst, fever, inflammation, and discharges of blood from the hæmorrhoidal vessels.

### POISONOUS MUSHROOMS.

MUSHROOMS have been long used in sauces and other culinary preparations; yet there are numerous instances on record of the deleterious effects of some species of these *fungi*, almost all of which are fraught with poison. Pliny already exclaims against the luxury of his countrymen in this article, and wonders what extraordinary pleasure there can be in eating such dangerous food.

But if the palate must be indulged with these lethal luxuries, or, as Seneca calls them, "voluptuous poison," it is highly necessary that the mild eatable mushrooms should be gathered by persons skilful enough to distinguish the good from the false, or poisonous, which is not always the case; nor are the characters which distinguish them strongly marked.

The following statement is published by Mr. Glen, surgeon, of Knightsbridge:—

"A poor man, residing in Knightsbridge, took a walk in Hyde Park, with the intention of gathering some mushrooms. He collected a considerable number, and, after stewing them, began to eat them. He had finished the whole, with the exception of about six or eight, when, about eight or ten minutes from the commencement of his meal

he was suddenly seized with a dimness, or mist before his eyes, a giddiness of the head, with a general trembling and sudden loss of power: so much so, that he nearly fell off the chair; to this succeeded loss of recollection; he forgot where he was, and all circumstances of his case. The deprivation soon went off, and he so far rallied as to be able, though with difficulty, to get up, with the intention of going to Mr. Glen for assistance—a distance of about five hundred yards; he had not proceeded more than half way, when his memory again failed him: he lost his road, although previously well acquainted with it. He was met by a friend who with difficulty learned his state, and conducted him to Mr. Glen's house. His countenance betrayed great anxiety; he reeled about like a drunken man, and was greatly inclined to sleep; his pulse was low and feeble. Mr. Glen immediately gave him an emetic draught. The poison had so diminished the sensibility of the stomach, that vomiting did not take place for nearly twenty minutes, although another draught had been exhibited. During this interval his drowsiness increased to such a degree, that he was only kept awake by obliging him to walk round the room with assistance: he also, at this time, complained of distressing pains in the calves of his legs.—Full vomiting was at length produced. After the operation of the emetic, he expressed himself generally better, but still continued drowsy. In the evening Mr. Glen found him doing well."

The following case is recorded in the Medical Transactions, vol. ii.

"A middle-aged man having gathered what he called champignons, they were stewed, and eaten by himself and his wife; their child also, about four years old, ate a little of them, and the sippets of bread which were put into the liquor. Within five minutes after eating them, the man began to stare in an unusual manner, and was unable to shut his eyes. All objects appeared to him coloured with a variety of colours. He felt a palpi-



tation in what he called his stomach; and was so giddy that he could hardly stand. He seemed to himself swelled all over his body. He hardly knew what he did or said; and sometimes was unable to speak at all. These symptoms continued in a greater or less degree for twenty-four hours; after which, he felt little or no disorder. Soon after he perceived himself ill, one scruple of white vitriol was given him, and repeated two or three times, with which he vomited plentifully.

“The woman, aged thirty-nine, felt all the same symptoms, but in a higher degree. She totally lost her voice and her senses, and was either stupid, or so furious that it was necessary she should be held. The white vitriol was offered to her, of which she was capable of taking but very little; however, after four or five hours, she was much recovered: but she continued many days far from being well, and from enjoying her former health and strength. She frequently fainted for the first week after; and there was, during a month longer, an uneasy sense of heat and weight in her breast, stomach, and bowels, with great flatulence. Her head was, at first waking, much confused; and she often experienced palpitations, tremblings, and other hysteric affections; to all which she had ever before been a stranger.

“The child had some convulsive agitations of his arms, but was otherwise little affected. He was capable of taking half a scruple of ipecacuanha, with which he vomited, and was soon perfectly recovered.”

#### MUSHROOM CATSUP.

The edible mushroom is the basis of the sauce called mushroom catsup; a great proportion of which is prepared by gardeners who grow the fungi. The mushrooms employed for preparing this sauce are generally those which have not found a ready sale in the market, and are in a putrified state; for no vegetable substance is liable to so rapid a spontaneous decomposition as mushrooms. In a few days after they have been

gathered from the dung-bed on which they grow, they become the habitation of myriads of insects; and, if even the fresh mushroom be attentively examined, it will frequently be found to swarm with life.

#### *Appearances upon opening a Woman suddenly strangled.*

M. RICHERAND opened a woman of a good constitution, and about thirty-eight years of age, whom two men had strangled. The drum of the left ear was lacerated, and about an ounce of blood was forced through it. Upon raising the cranium, all the blood-vessels of the brain were found fuller than usual, and the ventricles of the same contained a florid, clear blood, and some of the same was found extravasated at the basis of the cranium. The lungs were greatly distended, and their membranes, where naturally no vessels are seen, appeared entirely vascular, some as thick as middling pins. And through the same membranes one could easily perceive more air in the cells of the lungs than usual; and when the right ventricle of the heart was opened, the air rushed out with great impetuosity. It contained an ounce of the same florid blood found in the lungs. All these appearances were owing to the manner the deceased was suffocated. For the hands of those men could not with an equal force and continuance close the wind-pipe as a cord would. Besides, by her struggling, she now and again received some air into her lungs; but as the blood could not descend freely from the brain, by reason of the compression from both their hands round the neck, so the vessels of the brain were necessarily distended, and at last ruptured.

M. Richerand further observed in this that both the fallopian tubes were both thicker and more fleshy than usual. Their extremities next the womb were open, while the other extremities were entirely closed up,



and what is more, did not appear to be ever open, nor had they a fringe; and yet the deceased was known to have had two children within the last five years of her life.

If this had been an original conformation of these tubes, generation by eggs would be certainly overthrown. But it is more probable that this was rather a disorder of those parts. This is the more likely, as both of those tubes were found full, one of a bloody, the other of a yellowish serum.

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*A poor Woman died through excess of Drinking.*

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A POOR woman of forty-five long accustomed to drink brandy, and those poor wines that grow about Paris, became so excessively drunk, that she died in 12 hours after; she was all this time senseless, her face pale, her extremities cold, her chest was greatly oppressed, and she had some convulsive motions, sometimes in one part, sometimes in another, but of short duration; she likewise had a little fever, which would come and go, without observing any regular period.

M. Richerand opened her; he found the blood black, thick and partly coagulated; the spleen, the pancreas, the liver, the lungs, were dried up, and scirrhus; numbers of the glands, such as those of the saliva, jugulars, of the spleen, mesentery, the lumbar glands, and those of the exterior part of the head, were both petrified and much bigger than what is natural.

M. Richerand attributes all these appearances to the excessive quantity of those poor wines, the deceased used to drink; these wines being greatly loaded with tartar, thickened her blood and diminished the diameter of the vessels, by crusting them over, as it does the vessels it is kept in, which prevent both nutrition and perspiration; the several parts of the body, of course were dried up; the glands in like manner, must necessarily grow bigger, as the secretion through

them is no longer performed; of course all functions, vital and animal, must cease.

This woman had a fever, yet she remained speechless; but this is not the only aphorism of Hippocrates that does not answer in those our more temperate climates.

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*Two Men suddenly struck Blind, recovered their Sight.*

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THESE men were employed to cleanse a sewer, where they happened to meet with a very old one, which had lain concealed there for many years; upon their opening it, it exhaled so intolerable a stench, that they were suddenly struck blind; one of them lost his sight entirely; the other could discern light from darkness only; however they both soon recovered their sight, by applying to their eyes compresses dipped in the following vulnerary spirit, and taking inwardly every four hours two spoonfuls of the same.

M. Chomel, who related the above history, further adds, that he relieved a deafness, that succeeded a stubborn megrim, and defluction upon the ears, by putting some of the above spirit into the affected ear with a little cotton; he likewise found it serviceable in old megrims, which often proceed from a weak stomach, whence crudities; this warm vulnerary spirit, by warming and bracing up the relaxed fibres of the stomach, mends the digestions, removes the crudities, and by strengthening the nerves, the circulation of the blood and all secretions made from it, are properly carried on; health is therefore restored.

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*An extraordinary Cure of a Palsy.*

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M. Gros, physician at Arles, has informed us, that he had cured a paralytic in a very short time, by often whipping the paralytic parts with nettles.



This method of whipping the part with nettles, has been an ancient practice. Celsus recommends it for the palsy, and calls it *urticatio*, he also recommends mustard-seed bruised, and applied to the part, this is his *sinapismus*. Rolfinicus, a German physician, recommends the same *urticatio*.

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### VENEREAL DISEASE IN INFANTS.

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THIS disease is common in lying-in hospitals, and sometimes to be met with in those families where either the father or the mother of the infant diseased is of loose morals. The symptoms in some cases shew themselves at birth, but most frequently not until some days after. It appears by red spots diffused all over the body; the skin becomes destroyed in various parts, and oozes out an acrid matter; blotches arise about the posteriors of the infant, and sometimes dry scaly eruptions appear. Although the distemper may not be traced by symptoms to the father or the mother, yet it is probable to have been communicated from them, because the disease may be in the constitution of the parents. The mode of cure in general is to put the nurse who suckles the child under a course of mercury; but sometimes this cannot be accomplished; then the child must take mercury. A cautious practitioner should be always selected in the cure of this dreadful disease, and one accustomed to such practice should be preferred. Nurses should be cautious in nursing such children, as the disease has been often communicated from the child.

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### GREAT OPPRESSION AFTER A WOUND IN THE ARM.

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A YOUNG man of about nineteen years of age, received a thrust of a sword in the upper and fore-part of his right arm, between two and

three in the morning. He was carried directly to the Hôtel Dieu, where the surgeon saw him about six. His fever in that short time became very violent. The difficulty of breathing and pain in the same side with the wound were so great, that he concluded the right cavity of the thorax must be full of blood, and that all there was for saving the patient's life was, to perform the paracentesis without delay. As the wound was already closed, he did not think of probing it; but by good chance he happened to espy a tumour under the right breast, which was eight inches over and one thick. This made him reflect that probably the thrust had only wounded the tendon of the pectoral muscle, and not penetrated into the cavity of the thorax, the more so, as this tumour had not changed colour, nor was there any fluctuation of matter to be perceived, nor was it accompanied with an emphysema, whereby it was evident it was neither blood, nor air that had produced it, but was owing to a puncture of the above tendon, which brought on a defluxion of serum, and occasioned the pain. He therefore applied compresses to the part, dipped in spirits of wine and water; had the patient bled that morning, the same evening and the next morning, by which time all the above symptoms were greatly abated. And by repeating the same dressings for eight days, the patient perfectly recovered.

We see here how fallacious the signs of an extravasation of blood in the cavity of the thorax are, and how difficult it is to form a right judgment in such a case. How hazardous the operation in such a case might prove!

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### MARGATE HEALTH-HUNTING.

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"COME to Margate," says Mrs. Abrahams, "there you will get a colour and an appetite, bless you." Well, down they all go. First they



take a warm bath, then a cold bath—floundering about for an hour in the water—stay out sauntering about in the night air—poke themselves into crowded libraries and dancing-rooms—go to bed at break of day—and then come to town in a fever! Thus it has been lately with several; and we at present visit a case which has had a narrow escape from death—all brought on by *health hunting at Margate*.

Let people, if they go to watering-places for health, go to bed at ten o'clock—rise early,—immerse themselves in the water daily, and instantly leave it—live moderate—and mix with the amusements only at proper hours, and they will return with improved health and spirits; but Margate now a-days, since steam came into fashion, is the place to become an invalid.

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### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*To prevent Cramps in Bathing, tie the garters tightly round the leg just above the knee.*

We think it no remedy.

*For Weakness.*

*A new egg, beat up with a little wine and nutmeg, every day at eleven o'clock.*

This is a good remedy; but the bowels must be kept regular.

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### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*Volatile Liniment.*

Add a little hartshorn to sweet oil, so as to make it white.

This is good to rub for pains in the joints.

*A Wash for Burns or Scalds.*

Of goulard water, one drachm,  
Camphorated spirit, three drachms,  
Water, one pint.—Mix,—wet the parts  
twice a-day.

### CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

THE following directions, &c. were given by Mr. Abernethy in the year 1813, to a gentleman labouring under a liver complaint. I think a perusal of them will be of use to many of your numerous subscribers; and in requesting you to give them publicity I can (from particular circumstances) assure you they are as nearly as possible verbatim. I beg to remain, Sir,

Your constant reader,

L. D.

Lambeth, Aug. 26, 1824.

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*Mr. Abernethy's prescription and directions for Liver Complaints.*

“Rise early, walk one hour before you take your breakfast, let it be something that will agree with you, light and easy of digestion, *not tea*. Eat nothing in less than three hours after a meal, nor go longer than six hours without eating, while this complaint is on you, and choose food of easy digestion for dinner. Hunger and thirst are incompatible, therefore drink nothing with your dinner, that you may avoid diluting your gastric juice too much, and thereby render it inert, and prevent its producing its proper action on your food. Two glasses of wine, however, may be allowed as a stimulus to the stomach. It is probable that in two hours after dinner you will be thirsty; you may then drink, but in a moderate quantity. Avoid smoking tobacco and fermented liquors. Use no exercise in less than three hours after eating a full meal, that all the energies of your body may have an opportunity of exerting themselves in digesting your food. You may then walk, ride, or use what exercise you please. Take no supper, unless you dine early, and then let the food be light: be in bed by ten o'clock—Exit stomach—enter bowels:—Question—Are you costive? answer yes.—Take a little lenitive electuary, sufficient to produce a gentle motion. Avoid purging. The fæces should be brown, the colour of rhu-



barb and water mixed. When of an olive or soot colour, or black, the bile is vitiated; when of a lighter yellow than the fine brown, the bile is healthy, but not poured out in sufficient quantity, or diluted too much with liquids that you take. The remedy against vitiated bile, or deficiency in the bilairy function, is to take every other night the common blue mercury pill, called *pilula hydrag.*, to be purchased in a mass of one ounce, at Apothecaries' Hall, to be made into pills by yourself, as you want them; each pill, the size of a marrow-fat pea, will contain about five grains of mercury. This is the most valuable medicine yet known as an alterative; it must on no account be taken in a greater quantity than here specified. I am a surgeon, and know from experience that any quantity of mercury taken by the human subject, approximating to salivation, injures the functions of the liver for a great length of time afterwards. The small quantity that I have here laid down can hurt no one; and as I again repeat, mercury is the only medicine that can at all be depended upon for producing an healthy action in a morbid liver or spleen. Should this quantity affect the gums or throat, you must then lower it till no such affection be produced, or but just felt. I see no objection to your washing yourself in cold water or cold bath.

If you feel a desire to drink between breakfast and dinner, you may take a little ginger or pennyroyal tea, made weak, which is to be considered as a stimulus to the stomach instead of bitters.

Should the stomach become weak after taking mercury for any length of time, purchase at Apothecaries' Hall one fourth H. Cascarilla bark, infuse every morning one fourth ounce in six spoonsful of hot water, which cover up for two hours: take this quantity with a piece of ship biscuit four hours after breakfast.

[Mr. Abernethy, like all other practitioners who take up a favourite medicine, in general carries its use too far. Blue pill—blue pill, *ad infinitum*, is his hobby. We think it an excellent alterative, but it must nei-

ther be taken too frequently, nor long continued. A dose once a week is enough, and in the intermediate time a little rhubarb and magnesia is the best medicine. ED.



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

THERE is a tailor going about the country parts of England, who now finds it more profitable to cut up constitutions than cloth, and to patch old sores than old breeches. His plan is to cure by incantation, prayer, &c. &c. &c. The fellow is eternally drunk, but never staggers, and is possessed of one of those phlegmatic brandy faces which only grows more solemn in its appearances as his intellects become fuddled. A woman applied to him lately, to request him to come to see her sick husband. She found him in the back parlour of an inn, booted, spurred, and (although she could not perceive it) drunk as a lord. He was walking to and fro with his hands behind his back, when the poor woman entered the apartment. "Please your honour, I come to beg you to see my husband, who is lying very ill." No answer; but still pacing up and down. "He is very ill, I assure your worship. I hope you will come, Sir."—Not a word! After a long silence, "I hope, Sir, you'll be so kind as to come and see my poor husband; I will pay you any thing you demand." Still not a word; but a few mutterings, and a turn up of the drunken eyeballs, and still pacing about. The woman approached the doctor, pulled him by the coat, and in the most strenuous terms renewed her entreaties, but still he continued walking up and down, and muttering some nonsense to himself. At last



she pulled him violently by the coat, when he turned round, and in a gruff tone cried, "Hould your tongue, d—n you; I'm busy curing a man in America; I'll be ready for you by and bye," and then began pacing and muttering again. This pacified the poor woman, who waited patiently until the American was cured!—A fact.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

As you have openly declared war against the quacks, I send the following case, and shall feel obliged by your making it public, as it may possibly prevent others from applying to those pests of society, and murderers of their own kind. I am a young man who have all my life lived gaily, and kept company freely with the fair sex, by which I several times contracted a disease which I fear, through quackery, I shall never be free from. I have pains in all my limbs, ulcerated sore throat, swellings on my shin bones, dimness of sight, singing in my ears, my frame is reduced to that state, that I am a complete bundle of skin and bones. I cannot but think, if I had applied to a regular practitioner in time, my health might have been restored, instead of which, from motives of false delicacy, I applied to a quack not a hundred miles from ——— street, who observes so much secrecy, and whose nostrums I have been swallowing by wholesale without the least benefit; on the contrary, I find myself daily wasting, so that unless you can, through the means of your valuable little work, afford me some means of relief, nature cannot possibly hold out much longer. I now, too late, firmly believe, had a regular practitioner had *one-twelfth* of what I have paid the scoundrel who has been murdering me for the last ten months, I should now be restored to health and enjoyment. Most earnestly requesting your attention to my case,

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

C. G.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*A word to Literary Men.*—A man who is devoted to the cultivation of letters is too apt to forget that the soundness of his understanding depends much on the vigour of his bodily powers; he regards the application of the means necessary to preserve the latter, as a comparatively tiresome and forbidding employment, and dreams far more of the success he anticipates, or the glory to which he aspires, than of the care he ought to bestow upon his *health*—the first and most desirable of all blessings, and that which alone can give a zest to the enjoyment of any others.

*Both the fore-arms withered and fell off in a fever.*—Ann Perraut, now twenty-one years old, had at seven a fever, in which both her hands and fore-arms withered first and fell off after. These withered hands she produced before the academy, which were as black and withered as the hands of a mummy.

*Female Physician.*—A little old woman, full seventy years of age, named Madam Boucher, has been tried at Paris, on the 20th ult. for clandestinely exercising the art of medicine. Her practice was not confined to the human race, but extended itself to dogs, cats, horses, cows, pigs and poultry! Thousands of all classes and nations beset her doors daily. However, this prodigious renown by no means proved that Madame Boucher was infallible. A female, of the name of Thernard, who had taken Madam's prescription, having, by its powerful effects, been *disturbed ninety-five times* in one day, and suffered in the abdominal viscera to such a degree, that she declared she felt her backbone, as if it were bitten in two by the jaws of an alligator, complained to the commissary of police to as-



snage her pains. The officers of justice proceeded to the domicile of Madam Le Docteur, and found her amidst a dozen of rabbits, cats, dogs, &c. pacing about her laboratory. Madam, in her defence, asserted the purity of her intentions, and produced a certificate of M. Le General Partouneaux, which stated, that she had cured an inveterate disease, under which he had laboured, and which resisted every recourse of art.

M. l'Avocate Du Roi then read the certificate of several physicians, that this nostrum contains medicines highly dangerous. He also produced in evidence a man of the name of Pouille—nick-named *the Grimacier*, that by this woman's prescription had contracted a violent inflammation of the intestines, and was reduced to a skeleton.

Judgment will be pronounced next sittings.

Sir J. Leach, who was lately operated on for the stone, is now convalescent, but considerably reduced in vital strength.

*Case of very uncommon Palsy.*—A Swiss soldier quartered in Douay, aged about 32, was received into the hospital there in December, for an ague, accompanied with a troublesome catarrh, which greatly wasted him; he was cured of both, and discharged out of the hospital at the month's end. About the first of January following, he complained of an acute pain in the bend of his arm, which continued with the same violence for three days, and then entirely left him; about four or five days after, he was seized with the like acute pain in the shoulder of the same side, which held him without intermission for five days.

After this, some watery blisters appeared in the palm of the hand, which soon after broke, and discharged a good deal of clear water

without any bad smell; about this time, the end of January, he first began to perceive, he sensibly lost all feeling in all this arm and hand.

About the beginning of May following, all his hand, fore-arm, and arm were covered with a considerable tetter, which discharged for all that month a great quantity of fetid matter; he was cured also of this tetter, but his arm and hand remained without any feeling. He happened without thought to take off the cover of a stove that was almost red hot, he however laid it down as unconcerned as if it had been cold. By this accident he lost two of his fingers, without ever complaining of any pain, or making a wry face when they were cut off; yet what is very extraordinary, this man goes through all his evolutions as well as any other man in the regiment.

*A contagious Purple Fever from Worms.*—This fever raged for some time at Toul; it carried off numbers in two or three days illness; the skin of such as had the good fortune to escape, peeled off entirely; the infection was so great, that no body would venture to open them, several dying by carrying the dead to the grave. What was singular in this fever was, that as many as had been early succoured, voided worms, the purple spots appearing after; all these recovered.

*Amputation of the Leg of a Cow.*—

Last week, near Exeter, a cow belonging to Mr. John Edwards, farmer, broke the lower bone of the fore leg—a compound fracture—Amputation was supposed by the veterinary surgeon to be the only thing to save the animal, and as she was a valuable milch cow, the farmer requested it to be done. The operation was performed, and a most ingenious wooden leg constructed, by which the animal will be able to walk tolerably well.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Can our friends at Bristol inform us whether there is a man practising physic in that town named Macder Mahamoud—an Indian.

We have again to request that every letter requesting medical advice may contain some address; if the number of a house cannot be sent, the nearest post-office will be equally good. Our reason for thus requesting addresses is, that frequently cases require such advice as cannot be properly made public. A. M. A.'s is one of those cases.

Has MANLIUS received a letter.

A NATIVE OF ENGLAND may take 15 drops of the tincture of opium at night for a few nights, and eat boiled bread and milk, or thickened milk.

Has THOMAS MORTIMER received a letter? if not, let him write and he shall have another.

T. V. Should send us an address.

W. W. is assured that Sir Astley Cooper has no "*Maxims of Health*,"—it is nothing but a puff.

PROBATUM EST has obliged us.

BOLLINGBROKE may find benefit by putting a clove of garlic into each ear, and not removing them. When they become decayed, he should put behind each ear a small blister; keep from cold, and avoid costiveness.

J. M. 16.—Hunt's pill, as colycinth and calomel.

J. M. T. should wear a suspensary bandage, and bathe the parts with a solution of vinegar and sal-ammoniac twice a-day; he must also keep the bowels regular by rhubarb.

The MILITARY SURGEON, Mr. A. who states that he came to town to consult the Editor of the MEDICAL ADVISER upon a disease of the trachea, cannot be angry with us for not meeting him, if he considers the *peculiar* situation in which we stand. This will be further explained if Mr. A. will tell us where to address him.

Although X. P. R. of Clapham thinks himself quite recovered, he had better continue his medicine.

P. R.—Blisters are of no use to him.

Miss J. W. next week.

Mr. Zebedee Dunkin's letter next week.

H. G. must take, every day between breakfast and dinner, three drachms of the tincture of senna, one drachm of the tincture of rhubarb, and one drachm of the tincture of bark; let him merely add them together in a druggist's shop, without water, and swallow the draught. Let him write in a fortnight.

Several favours have come to hand.

## ERRATUM FOR LAST NUMBER.

Page 166, under the head of "Pudding and Potatoe Schools," instead of "We have *no* important task," read, "We have *an* important task."

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

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TO

THE READERS

OF

## THE MEDICAL ADVISER.

IN the discharge of our duties as the proprietors of the "Medical Adviser," we have strenuously directed our endeavours towards crushing that system of quackery, which for many years past, has been so destructive to the human race, and which has but too fruitfully rewarded its professors in this kingdom, nor shall we cease to do so till we have done our utmost to bring it to an end.

Our knowledge of these men, and of their practices cannot, however, be often gained by personal experience, a very great portion must be derived from the information of others, and we are of course liable to be sometimes deceived by false or erroneous information.

We have now to express our regret that we have in this way been the means of giving publicity to that which subsequent enquiries have convinced us was unfounded. We are now speaking of all those parts where allusions have been made to Messrs. Goss and Co, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street.

The allusions made to the professional claims of that firm were made from information we had received that the gentlemen conducting it were not regular practitioners. Subsequent enquiries have convinced us, that such information must have been given to impose upon us—indeed we have much pleasure in stating that they are members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and that their professional education has been regular and liberal.

But we must now retract the most

serious part of the charge; it was insinuated that Mr. Crucefix, one of the gentlemen alluded to, was proprietor of a brothel. THIS IS NOT TRUE. His private and moral character are unimpeachable: indeed we feel much pleasure in stating, that our inquiries have furnished us with the fact, that at the time we inserted the article reprobating his character, Mr. Crucefix was actively fulfilling the duties which devolved upon him as a member of a select committee, for the purpose of suppressing the houses of ill fame in the parish where he resides, and that the labours of that committee have mainly contributed to correct a nuisance so revolting to society.

We feel that we have been shamefully imposed upon, and that we may have done injury to gentlemen towards whom we entertain no personal hostility. Knowing this, it becomes our duty, as far as we can, to remedy the injury we have been a party to the infliction of. We hope, however, our friends will not think the worse of us, that having been deceived into a mistatement, we make the *amende honorable* as soon as that mistatement is explained. We conclude, by expressing our sense of the manner in which Messrs. Goss and Co., and more especially Mr. Crucefix, have met the mediation of friends to a reconciliation: we have been saved the inconvenience and annoyance of the law proceedings, which have been taken to maintain professional and private respectability.

THE PROPRIETORS.



## EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

THE subject of this week's Plate farther illustrates the practice of curing by superstition. The anecdote it represents is this:—An English naval surgeon, at a village in the East Indies, having been present when a native fell down in a fit, proceeded to his medicine chest, which was then near him, having been carried on shore for the purpose of assisting the sick of the village which were then numerous; and while in the act of preparing the medicine for the sick man, a Bramin who attended stole behind the surgeon, cut off a lock of his hair, and burnt it with incantations before the patient, as an effectual remedy for the disease under which he laboured. However, the poor fellow who suffered found much more benefit from the surgeon's medicine than the Bramin's prayers.

## CHOLERA MORBUS.

THIS disease, which is a violent vomiting and purging, is extremely prevalent now in London. Fruit is by some supposed to be the cause, but it is more likely the effects of the sudden changes in the temperature of the atmosphere from cold to oppressive heat. It may not be improbable, too, that the air may be infected by poisonous particles, as the writer of the following account of the disease, as it appears in the East Indies, asserts. The cure of the disease in this country is simple, but it must be applied instantly; no time is to be lost, as the disease often terminates fatally in twenty-four hours. Let the patient drink plentifully of broths and other diluents, such as warm whey and gruel; let him take thirty drops of laudanum every five or six hours, and if spasms should be felt in the legs or other parts, a warm bath must be given, and increased doses of laudanum. This is all that is to be done,

and we have never seen a case of cholera morbus, which was thus treated in time, that did not yield to it.

### *Dr. Rankin's Observations on the Cholera Morbus of the East Indies.*

THE cholera morbus had carried off a great number of the inhabitants of Delhi during the autumn of 1818, when, apparently following the course of the wind over a tract of 200 miles, it appeared in the town of Jeypore about the end of August, soon after the cessation of unusually heavy rain. On the 12th of September, as it began to abate in the city, the disease first attacked the troops in a detached camp, containing at least 15,000 natives, besides a company of European artillery; but of the latter only one man was affected. The ground of this encampment was somewhat damp, and the neighbourhood is covered with very long reeds. These two places are twenty miles distant from each other; and it is remarkable, that the surrounding villages, with the rest of the principality, remained entirely free from the calamity. According to the daily reports of the medical staff, to which I have had access, 140 men died between the 17th of September and the 2d of October, when the mortality ceased; and within this period 1514 patients were admitted into the hospitals. I believe that the extent and fatality of the sickness were proportionally much less in the town; but no account of the loss of lives which it occasioned was kept there by public authority, nor is the number of inhabitants known. The sufferers, with few exceptions, belonged to the humblest class, who are generally half starved, and almost naked.

Rice is here a luxury of the great; but the various kinds of grain and pulse common to the rest of India are in use by the people at large. It is to be observed, likewise, that the Rajpûts, who form a great majority in this province, being less scrupulous than other Hindoos, eat



the flesh of the deer, and even of the wild hog.

The British residents in Rajputana at this time occupied a garden house between the camp and Jey-pore, not far from the town; and it happened that the only men of his escort who were taken ill, had been, a little while before, among the troops that were affected. The brute creation did not altogether escape the sickness of the period; many camels and goats, in particular, having died of violent diarrhœas and other ailments. The complaint, after gradually attaining its height, and apparently subsiding by similar degrees, disappeared with the rainy season, and was succeeded by severe intermittent fevers, which indeed had prevailed extensively during its continuance.

*Symptoms.*—Since it is sanctioned by established custom, I should not hesitate, as some have done, to give the name of Cholera to this epidemic, notwithstanding the absence, in many instances, of bile, the appearance of which I consider the effect, and not the cause, of it.

The descriptions of authors, likewise, such as Celsus, Sydenham, and Cullen, seem perfectly applicable to the disease under consideration. The symptoms are infinitely various in degree, though perhaps never in kind, except from some internal complaint, or other casual agency. In all the cases which I had an opportunity of seeing, the disorder was preceded by general lassitude, frequently ending in shivering, resembling an ague fit. Then follow, often immediately after eating, pains of the belly, with sickness at stomach, succeeded by vomiting and purging, but sometimes the former only. Cramps or convulsive motions are perceived in the muscles, particularly of the legs and arms. The eye-balls sink into the sockets, the extremities grow cold, and the skin, clinging as it were to the bones of the face, gives it those ghastly appearances which constitute the *facies hippocratica*. In this stage, the pulse, feeble from the beginning, is seldom perceptible at the wrist.

After the undigested food, the natural secretions of the first passages are thrown up; and when the disease, or the patient's life, lasts long enough, bile is at length discharged. The thirst which commonly attends evacuations of the stomach is very common in cholera. There is, at the same time, a burning sensation within the epigastric region, while it feels hot to the touch externally, and is not unfrequently the seat of agonizing pains. If the progress of the disease be not arrested, the vital powers get exhausted, and the vomiting ceases. This event being the consequence of extreme debility, is rapidly followed by the usual signs of approaching death.

Such may be considered the worst form of the epidemic. It is on some occasions so mild, that the patient is in little danger, unless from the sinking of his strength under repeated attacks. But on the other hand, it is certain that many men died, as all believed, of the same malady, who, falling on the ground, expired almost instantly, without exhibiting what are usually reckoned the diagnostic symptoms. This fact seems analogous to what Sydenham relates of the plague, which sometimes, though rarely, is not preceded by any perceptible fever, and proves suddenly mortal."

*Remote causes.*—The salubrity of a climate has little dependence on fixed temperature. Where the vicissitudes of the atmosphere, however uncertain and numerous, are unremitting, the people enjoy health in an equal degree with those of other countries, in which the changes are few and regular. The healthiness of either climate, therefore seems to arise from the permanency of its characteristics, rather than from any peculiar qualities of the weather. Were the equable summer of Attica, for instance, and the variable one of England, to interchange scenes, sickness would follow in both countries. On these principles, I would impute the cholera morbus chiefly to that irregularity of the seasons which prevailed at its



commencement, and has continued ever since.

Rain, instead of appearing during our months only after the hot winds, has been falling at all times of late in greater or less quantity. The last cold season here was unsettled, wet, and unusually mild. A drought had occurred in autumn for several years past; but between the middle of June and the end of September of the present year, more rain fell than any one ever remembered to have seen before during these months. This variation may be reckoned a relative cause; while the nature of the change was in itself deleterious also.

The action of heat on the moisture thus supplied in these latitudes, must promote very extensively the decomposition of vegetable matter, and all decaying substances; from which the exhalations of an Indian sun will, by debilitating the body, predispose it to disease. Supposing the same agency to injure vegetable life too, the principal food of Hindûs may be thus rendered deficient in nutriment, or noxious in quality. Where the atmosphere is farther polluted by much animal respiration, and still more if all the foregoing causes concur at one place, we shall expect to find there a corresponding degree of the epidemic.

Cholera morbus raged more violently in Delhi than in this town. The people of the former, situated near the muddy bed of the Jumna, are crowded together in narrow lanes, which have not been visited by untainted air since they were built.

The inhabitants of Jeypore, the only city here, live in wide airy streets, and on a sandy soil, where, as the naked rocks, composing numerous small hills, get heated above the temperature of the plains, the surrounding medium is kept constantly in motion. Again, this place and the British camp were the only spots throughout the territory in which the disorder appeared. When the hospitals became

full, those sepoys who assisted the sick were observed to be more liable to it than their comrades in the lines. The detachment finally divided into small parties forming separate encampments, and selecting always the driest ground. The disease then, from whatever cause, began to decline. The same plan of separation had been successfully adopted last cold season in the centre division of the grand army.

It is publicly stated by Dr. Tytler, that the sickness was stopped in the district of Jessore by the prohibition of bad rice, which he considers of an acrid quality. This statement has never, to my knowledge, been invalidated; but, independently of the fact, I entertain no doubt that any unwholesome diet, by deteriorating the system, will establish a predisposition to the epidemic.

*Proximate Cause.*—In that state of debility already described as the incipient stage of cholera, the smaller vessels of the circumference becoming unequal to the propulsion of their fluids, almost the whole circulating mass accumulates progressively in the central trunks, and in the abdomen, chest and brain. It is in consequence that the extremities shrink, the limbs grow cold, and they are seized with spasms; an occurrence often observable in an animal bleeding to death. The soft texture of the internal viscera, on the contrary, is distended by the vast influx of blood; whence the secretions of the liver and intestines increase. The substance of the stomach and alimentary canal being thus overcharged, their inner surface acquires the highest degree of irritability. In such a condition of these organs, it appears probable that their own fluids may occasion the phenomena of the disease; but if any foreign matter, especially of an acrid or hurtful nature, be swallowed, it will readily excite the disorder, or, when previously begun, augment its violence.

Without attempting here, to account for different degrees of the same cause producing effects that



differ in kind, I may assume a fact, which is often admitted both in Therapeutics and Pathology. But the worst symptoms of cholera morbus are nearly identified with those of other general diseases, which terminate in gradual exhaustion of the vital powers. In some of them, the stomach and bowels are preternaturally active, while the rest of the system is verging to extinction; and convulsive motion of the limbs frequently attend the recession of the blood. The history of fever, the effects of poison, of inanition from hunger, and even of slow hemorrhages, seem all confirmatory of these opinions. Whether brought on by the direct or indirect action of morbiferous qualities, the final loss of energy, in all of them, is productive of symptoms similar or equivalent to those arising from the proximate cause of cholera.

*Cure.*—From the foregoing positions, the most powerful stimulants are indicated as the means of cure; and of these, tincture of opium is perhaps the best remedy. A hundred drops of it, taken on the first accession of the vomiting, will often render a repetition unnecessary. I would, in general, repeat the dose as frequently as it is immediately rejected. Where it has remained on the stomach too, without allaying all the distressing symptoms, I have given the above quantity three times in an hour with ultimate success. I never knew small doses to have any good effect. A little wine or spirits should be drank at short intervals, to prevent the great depression which is apt to follow the excitement of opium. The thirst attendant on cholera, and increased by this medicine, may be somewhat diminished, at the same time, by adding two or three ounces of tepid water to the spirits of wine. It is not advisable to give more at a time. The patient, from the commencement, ought to lie well covered with blankets, in a warm apartment, to which the external air is freely admitted. The complaint is sometimes followed by a watery looseness, which, left to

itself, will generally rid the bowels of all offensive matter. I consider purgatives dangerous in any of the stages, and likely to aggravate the disease, or to cause a relapse. The warm bath also is objectionable, on account of the weakness which it is calculated to produce.

Bleeding is likewise recommended by some whose opinions are entitled to much respect; yet neither principle nor experience has convinced me, that the practice is beneficial or even safe. The veins, however, having shrunk and become almost empty, the operation in most dangerous cases will be found impracticable. Calomel, like other mercurials, though it be, in the words of Cullen, a powerful and diffusible stimulus to every living fibre, proves too tardy and inconsiderable in its effects on the blood-vessels, to deserve confidence here. The slow but prolonged excitement of this remedy would suggest it as a corrective of the debilitating consequences of opium; and these qualities may account for the success ascribed to it by Mr. Johnson, and his imitators in this country. Wine and spirits, which I have mentioned as the best adjuvants to the laudanum, are the only remedies to which we can resort in those cases where the vomiting has ceased spontaneously, and left the sufferer in a state of collapse. My opinion respecting the *modus operandi* of opium, must be anticipated by this time. Brought nearly in contact with the nerves of the stomach, and entering the circulation, it seems to act by exciting the sanguiferous vessels to unload the great cavities of the accumulated blood, which the extending operation of the medicine enables them to propel gradually to the surface and extremities. The return of warmth and circulation to these parts, which always accompany a remission of the symptoms, is thus readily explained. The prophylactic treatment will appear simple, if my opinion respecting the remote causes be admitted. These are to be avoided or resisted. We are enabled, in some measure,



to follow the latter indication, by recollecting what classes of people were most affected. The poor suffered much, the rich little, and natives far more than Europeans. Generous diet, comprising animal food and wine, is accordingly advisable. Clothing, strictly adapted to the season; flannel worn next the skin; and moderate exercise to keep the body in vigour, are obvious precautions, which those unavoidably exposed to noxious exhalations and irregular transitions of weather, ought never to neglect. It is also an excellent general rule for the preservation of health, particularly during the prevalence of any disease, to assist the stomach and bowels immediately, whenever their functions are found to be impeded or disturbed.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 164.)

### OF DELIRIUM.

**HIP.** That dotage which is with laughter, is not so dangerous as that with earnest sadness.

**COOK.** Because the first is from more gentle vapors and sanguineous ichor. The other from adust and hot bile.

**HIP.** When a delirium is appeased by sleep, it is a good sign.

**COOK.** For this signifies that the heat and acrimony of the vapors and humours causing fondness, is mitigated by sleep, and reduced by some mediocrity.

**HIP.** After a flux of blood at the nose, if dotage follow, or convulsion, it is ill.

**COOK.** Because then they are from emptiness, which is very dangerous.

**HIP.** In wounds or blows of the head, if stupor or dotage follow, it is ill.

**COOK.** Because it is a sign the wound hath penetrated to the brain.

**HIP.** If on excessive drinking there happen extreme cold and delirium, it is ill.

**COOK.** The cold is caused from

the extinguishing of the native heat; and the delirium, the head being replete with hot blood and vapours.

**HIP.** Convulsion and desipency after watching, is sad.

**COOK.** Watching doth evacuate and dry, and so induceth a convulsion; besides, it makes the blood more bilious, and so more fit to provoke the nervous parts.

**HIP.** If the skull be fractured to the cavity, there follows a delirium.

**COOK.** By this means the animal spirits do vanish, and the brain is exposed to the cold air: the fracture must be through both tables.

### OF MADNESS, OR PHRENSY.

**HIP.** A phrensy after inflammation of the lungs, is ill.

**COOK.** Because the diseased matter rushes into a principal part.

### PRETERNATURAL SLEEP.

**HIP.** In what diseases sleep is hurtful, it is deadly; but if it profit, it is less hurtful.

**COOK.** The first shows the vehemency; the other the mildness of the disease; only remember, trouble after sleep is not mortal.

**HIP.** Sleep and watching, if immoderate, are ill.

**COOK.** It shows the diseased matter is sent to the head; besides all immoderate things are adverse to nature, and too much sleep is a sign the brain is too cool and moist.

### RESOLUTION OF THE NERVES, CALLED APOPLEXY AND PALSY.

**HIP.** It is possible to cure a strong apoplexy, and not easy to cure a gentle one.

**COOK.** A strong one is, when the breath is uneven and disorderly, and sometimes intermitting; and if such a breathing be very violent, the disease is strong; if it be stopt, it is most strong.

**HIP.** Those which are in health, being suddenly taken with the headache, and presently become dumb and snort, die within seven days, except a fever take them.

**COOK.** Snorting is a sign of a strong apoplexy; the fever must be



violent and essential, springing from the inflammation of the spirits and humours; otherwise it will not discuss the matter.

HIP. If a man's tongue suddenly become feeble, or any part of the body be numbed without feeling, it is a sign of melancholy.

COOK. These proceed from a resolution of the animal spirits, caused either from phlegm or melancholy juice; therefore revel with glysters and pills.

HIP. Perilous eruptions in melancholy diseases, do signify either an apoplexy, convulsion, madness, or blindness.

COOK. These diseases, causes, &c. See in practice. If the humours break into the ventricle of the brain, they cause an apoplexy; if to the nerves, a convulsion: into the substance of the brain, madness; if to the eyes, blindness.

HIP. Apoplexies are caused most especially from the fortieth to the sixtieth year.

COOK. It is from a thick melancholy matter which obstructs the pores of the brain; which humour is luxuriant in this age.

#### OF THE EPILEPSY.

HIP. Change and alteration of place and diet, and especially of age, free children of the falling-sickness.

COOK. Age only cures that which is proper, not that by sympathy.

HIP. The epilepsy which is before ripeness of years, may be cured; but that which comes after five-and-twenty years, for the most part accompanies to death.

COOK. For in time of ripeness of age there is great store of natural heat, which is potent to discuss diseases; moreover, at that time women begin to have their courses, by which the uncleanness of the body is purged: but yet it is not always true, that an epilepsy after five-and-twenty years is incurable, although seldom.

#### DISEASES FROM BURNT BILE, MELANCHOLY AND MADNESS.

HIP. If fear and sadness continue long, it is a sign of melancholy.

COOK. If it be without any manifest cause, and with no reason, and continue long.

HIP. The hemorrhoids happening to those troubled with melancholy and pain of the kidneys, are good.

COOK. Because they as well revel as evacuate the vitious blood, which is the cause; hence it is good to open the veins in the feet.

HIP. If varices or hemorrhoids come to mad-men, the disease is cured.

COOK. Madness without a fever, is cured by translation of the matter from the head.

HIP. After madness, the bloody flux or dropsy, or alienation of mind, is good.

COOK. For there is a remove of the noxious humour from the head to the lower parts.

#### OF CONVULSION, DISTENTION OF THE NERVES, AND HICCOUGHS.

HIP. A convulsion after taking hellebor, is deadly.

COOK. Expect much from the immoderate purging that follows the taking of it.

HIP. A convulsion upon a wound is deadly.

COOK. For it is a sign some nervous body is hurt, or the brain the original of them.

HIP. A convulsion or Hiccough after great effusion of blood, is ill.

COOK. These either arise from the emptying of the veins and arteries, which after contract, and with themselves contract the nerves: or they being emptied, seek nourishment from the nerves, and so drying them procure convulsions; or else the animal spirits being withal exhausted, and so the nerves cooled, there ariseth an extemporary, not a long convulsion; so that these, though they be dangerous, yet are not deadly.

HIP. A convulsion or hiccough upon super-purgation, is bad.

COOK. In this, not only the vessels, but the usual humours are emptied; hence the convulsion being from emptiness, is dangerous, as hath been oft minded.



HIP. If the same fall out in one aged, it is worse.

COOK. On the same account.

HIP. Convulsion and hiccough comes of fulness or emptiness.

COOK. Observe, That fulness in a large sense takes in irritation, because provoking causes are material, but this is only the mediate cause, because it provokes by its quantity or quality.

HIP. If one drunk suddenly fall dumb, he shall die with a convulsion, unless he be taken with a fever, or presently recover his speech as soon as his surfeit is dissolved.

COOK. This shows convulsion from fulness, the nerves being imbued with much humours; this fulness is to be from wine, which although hot, immoderately used, may make it.

HIP. Those taken with a tetanus die within four days, in which if they escape, they may be cured.

COOK. This is tension, both to the anteriors and posteriors, and therefore nature cannot long endure those pains, chiefly when the whole body, and especially the neck is stiff with cold; for, besides those horrid pains which quickly dissolve the strength, the diaphragma is also affected by sympathy, and so worse; but if they escape at all, they are freed by a crisis the fourth day.

HIP. If a convulsion or swooning happen to a woman in her courses, it is ill.

COOK. If they be violent and last long, it may be deadly, because the womb is exhausted and draws all the noble parts into a sympathy with it.

HIP. A convulsion, or cramp upon a burning-fever, is deadly.

COOK. Because it signifies a great dryness of the nerves.

ED. These aphorisms are founded on good principles.

## ADULTERATION OF PERUVIAN BARK.

It is well known, that of the article of Peruvian bark, there is a variety of species inferior to the genuine; that too little discrimination is exercised by the collectors of this precious medicament; that it is carelessly assorted, and is frequently packed in green hides; that much of it arrives in Spain in a half-decayed state, mixed with fragments of other vegetables and various extraneous substances; and in this state is distributed throughout Europe.

But as if this were not a sufficient deterioration, the public are often served with a spurious compound of mahogany saw-dust and oak wood, ground into powder, mixed with a proportion of good quinquina, and sold as genuine bark powder.

Every chemist knows that there are mills constantly at work in this metropolis, which furnish bark powder at a much cheaper rate than the substance can be procured for in its natural state. The price of the best genuine bark, upon an average, is not lower than twelve shillings the pound; but immense quantities of powder bark are supplied to the apothecaries at three or four shillings a pound. There is no ready test for detecting the fraud.

## OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Tobacco leaf to a bruise or cut.*

A very bad application—it only irritates.

*Coarse blue paper put to the breasts of infants, to cure the whooping cough.*

Mere nonsense.—Galbanum plaster spread upon it indeed would alter the case.



## USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A good Pill in Feverish Attacks.*

Of calomel, six grains,  
Antimonial powder, twelve grains.  
Make into six pills, with bread;—one every two hours, for two or three doses.

*A good Wash for foul Blisters.*

Ten grains of nitrate of silver,  
Four ounces of water,—made into a wash.

## CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

NEW REMEDIES FOR  
HYDROPHOBIA.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*  
SIR,

I BEG you will have the goodness to favour the public with the following account respecting a cure of the hydrophobia, and you will much oblige a constant reader:—

An *infallible* cure for the bite of a mad dog, brought from Tonquin by Sir George Cobb, Bart., and published with his authority.—Take twenty-four grains of native cinabar, twenty-four grains of fictitious cinabar, and fifteen grains of musk; grind all these together into an exceeding fine powder, and put it into a small tea-cup of arrack rum, or brandy; let it be well mixed, and give it to the person as soon as possible after the bite, and a second dose of the same must be repeated thirty days after, and a third may be taken in thirty days more; but if the symptoms of madness appear on the persons, they must take one of the above doses immediately, and a second in an hour after; and, if wanted, a third must be given a few hours afterwards. The above receipt is calculated for a full grown person, but must be given to children in small quantities, in proportion to their ages. This medicine has been given to hundreds with success.

If in the madness they cannot take it in liquid, make it up in a bolus with honey; after the two first

doses, let it be repeated every three or four hours, till the patient is recovered.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,  
PUBLICOLA.

London, Sept. 8, 1824.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser*  
SIR,

HAVE the goodness to give the following paper all the publicity you can.

The Piedmontese Gazette of the 8th of May, 1817, contains the following article:—There is at length an efficacious remedy against the most terrible of all maladies, madness. This remedy consists of hydrochlore (liquid oxygenated muriatic acid) used internally as well as externally; the wounds caused by the bite of mad animals are to be washed with it. This substance will destroy the hydrophobic poison, even when used several days after the fatal bite. Numerous cures, incontestible and authentic, which have been effected by this extremely simple method in the great hospitals of Lombardy, leaves no doubt as to the power of this specific.

I remain,

yours most respectfully,

THEOPHRASTUS.

London, Sept. 8, 1824.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

IN reading the last number of your valuable publication, the paragraph on cheap Yorkshire schools attracted my notice. As I was so unfortunate myself to be sent there by my kind friends, to be well educated, clothed, and boarded, (on terms not in any degree adequate to the task,) I can speak from experience, and without the least exaggeration. After being there nearly three years, I returned home, stunted, skinny, pot-bellied, and bloated, but to their credit with a balance of learning. My uncouth appearance, my friends



attributed to the diet, which consisted chiefly of hasty-pudding, salt fish and potatoes, unwholesome brown tomy (bread,) unsavoury broths and soups, and hard puddings, which were considered a great delicacy; such a combination of unsubstantial food stopt my growth, and I verily believe would have stopped my health, if I had remained there much longer; but thanks to the virtue of good English living, I have recovered myself, and have reached the height of five feet eight; but if my kind friends had not (much against my will) put me under the training of those cunning Yorkshiremen, there is little doubt but I should be fit for a Life-guards man. I am told I was a fine boy previous to my northern excursion; so much indeed was I altered, that my friends scarcely knew me, and was so uncouth and unsociable in my behaviour, that every one was disgusted with me. I had not increased my stature an inch, but had rather grown shorter, and was altogether a sad disappointment to my friends, who expected to have seen a fine chopping boy, in lieu of the meagre, stunted, little fellow that appeared; these are facts, indeed; I should be very sorry by false and slanderous language to injure the character of any one; but these Yorkshire bites bit me so hard, that it is but justice to myself, and to the public, that the mystery of these cheap schools should be unveiled, which by their economical ways, produce such profit to themselves.

But why have borne all this, some will say, why not have informed your friends? who if they had had the least regard for you, would most certainly have taken you away,—so they would have done I have no doubt: but to write to them without their knowledge, was almost impossible; so cunning and circumspect were they that I really believe, there was not a single letter sent during the whole time I was there without their first reading it, and sometimes adding a few soft sentences of their own composing, such as how comfortable I am situated here, and how much my dear

brothers would be benefited by their coming. So severe was the punishment that would follow even an attempt to write, that so dangerous an undertaking never entered the head of any of us, which instead of simply taking down the trowsers, more likely would extend to the pulling off of every thing, and to undergo a chastisement too severe for the tender age of eleven and twelve to bear. And to conclude, how can parents suppose that a child can be well educated, clothed, and boarded, for £18 a year? Let the masters double their terms, use their scholars well, and they will find their academies better filled with young cocknies from their supposed expertness in teaching. If these facts are worthy a place in your interesting publication, you will oblige me by inserting them.

I am, Sir, with respect,  
Your constant reader,  
JUVENIS.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### LECTURE EXTRAORDINARY.

A SHORT time ago a fellow of the name of Mitchel, dabbled in the London pool of quackery, a most illiterate brute—even worse than his present namesake the “hunter of ship’s captains,” whom we showed up sometime ago. He was a German Jew, and followed the trade of a maker of mousetraps, which he hawked about previous to his embarking into the profession of physic. The gentleman who gave us this sketch is himself a Jew, and of the first respectability, and at the time that Mitchel commenced physician, and left off the mousetraps, he was



looked up to by the quack as his patron, and to him he unburdened all his conscience. Mr. L——, the gentleman we allude to, from the singularity of the change which Mitchel had made in his profession, told him one day in an ironical manner that he thought he would do well to give a lecture occasionally, in order to bring his name up. This hint the quack greatly thanked him for, and instantly declared his intention so to do, if Mr. L. would be kind enough to lend him a little assistance. The joke was too good to be lost, the assistance was immediately offered, and the place for the lecture fixed upon, which was to be at the sign of the Tailor's Arms, in Duke's-place, Aldgate. This part of the town was thought to be the best, because principally inhabited by the people of Mitchel's own persuasion. Mr. L. forthwith got cards printed, and Mitchel delivered them to his friends; the room was hired, and an old fashioned court dress procured by Mr. L. consisting of a pink coat with long made flaps, hanging sleeves, and no collar—red silk breeches, and a spangled vest, black silk stockings, buckled shoes, and a three-cocked pinch. Thus equipped, with his face half washed, he appeared in the largest room in the Tailor's Arms "before a pretty numerous crowd of auditors," amongst whom were not a few of Mr. L.'s friends invited specially to the treat. Now the lecturer could not read a single word of English, and but very little even of German or Hebrew,—however he appeared at one end of the room between two candles with a book open in his hand. One of the candles was held by Mr. L. who had no small task to hold his peace during the scene—and the other deposited in the hand of an odd sort of character, a moping, cynical man, who was nick-named the "viper" by many who relished metaphorical satire at his expense, and it was an epithet that always called forth his veriest rage.

Well, all was silence—and to keep it many a nether lip was bit-

ten.—The Lecturer "hemmed" and "hawed"—and looked round, bowing gravely to his audience; and then thumbing the book, which he held out boldly before him, he commenced:—"In de beginning God made de heavens and de ert, and all de wild beasts and de *vipers*"—at this moment looking towards the cynical candlestick! One universal roar followed, and then an uproar of the first magnitude. The "Viper" instantly dashed the candle at the Lecturer's head, and burnt his face. The book was then returned in compliment at the "Viper's" forehead, as earnest of a more substantial assurance, and thumps from both sides fell thick and fast. Now Doctor—now *Wiper*, bellowed from laughing mouths, and, blending into one general peal, made Duke's-place "ring again." Away they went, pummel and pummel;—stick to it—at him again—there they go—bump, rolling about the floor.

Well, this could not last all night; and when it was concluded (which was done by a seeming concession on the part of the Doctor,) and silence somewhat restored, Mr. L. again exercised his patronimical influence over the agitated Lecturer, and prevailed upon him to resume his oration. Mr. L. was obeyed, and the Lecturer resumed, which, as nearly as possible to recollect, is as follows: "Now, my cood peeples, you listen an you hear, I will not read no more; but I will tell you vat I know—cause you come here an pay your money—I fight dat dam rascal, an it put me out—I lick him some oder time, so help my cot.—Vell, I will tell you all I know: All de pains o' de body, and all de gripes in de guts comes from dis—dere is de vind, and de vater—an dere's de burning fire—an it run up de back-bone, an down de back-bone—from de head down to de toe. I cures dis by von little pill, so (here he opened a box) I give dis von little pill, an it open de doors of de body an de pain valk out.

I am not like Mr. Tray; I come not to tell lies, I tell you vot is true.



Mr. Tray came to convert all de-  
Jews; but he run away; and be-  
fore he run away, I say dis,—

Mr. Tray,  
He vill stay  
So long as you pay,  
And den he vill run away.

ha, ha! I vill not run away, though  
dat dam *reiper* blind my eye." Here  
poor Mitchel's harangue was again  
interrupted by the cynical little  
pugilist, who, dashing his hat down  
upon the ground ran at him;—to it  
they went, pell mell, until they were  
humanely separated; and as it was  
now pretty evident that little more  
than uproar could follow, Mr. L.  
directed the lecturer to be carried  
down stairs, and the company se-  
parated highly gratified.

*To the Editor of the Medical  
Adviser.*

SIR,

BELIEVING that you labour under  
some little mistake respecting me from  
some of your remarks, allow me to  
set you right—on leaving the respec-  
table individual (Mr. South, sen.) with  
whom I had been in the Borough  
between three and four years in the  
autumn of 1807, for the purpose of  
attending the lectures and practice of  
the united hospitals, in the Borough,  
which I did from that time to the end  
of the spring course of 1809, during  
which period, namely, in August 1808,  
I commenced business where I now  
am, as an apothecary, chemist and  
druggist, a period of seven years, pre-  
vious to the act of 1815, as such I con-  
sidered that act had nothing to do  
with me, or I with it. Of these facts  
if you have any doubt you may readily  
satisfy yourself at those hospitals, or if  
you wish it, the tickets shall be sent  
to you for your inspection. I parti-  
cularly wish this to be understood  
as personally addressed to you, not  
an answer to Trueman's letter, for  
were I disposed to answer that, I  
could prove most of the other facts  
there stated, as false as this. You  
may make what use you please of this  
letter, and I assure you I never should  
think of answering that individual's  
letter; I believe he has plenty of time  
on his hands; he is perfectly at liberty  
to write eleven more and make up the

dozen; all the harm they ever will do  
me, I will forgive.

I am Sir,

Yours respectfully,

Z. DUNKIN.

28, Parker Row, Dockhead.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I AM somewhat amused at the valiant  
puff, which my neighbour Zebedee,  
under the assumed signature of Veri-  
tas, from Charlotte-row, has ventured  
to put forth in your last number;  
and on first sight of the threatening  
paragraph, in your notice to corre-  
spondents, I was rather at a loss to  
conjecture, (having thus screwed up  
his courage to demand my placing  
myself in a more "tangible form,"  
and he would then give me "a meet-  
ing,") if it would not be imperative  
on my part to look out for a *trusty*  
*squire*, who would accompany me to  
the "tented field." I had scarcely  
conveyed the cursory suspicion, as it  
flitted over the mind, to a neighbour-  
ing son of Mars, than I received the  
comfortable assurance that my anta-  
gonist has upon all occasions, express-  
ed an invincible repugnance to the  
smell of powder, except indeed such  
powders and infallible potions as are  
placed in requisition in certain fa-  
vourite bottles, loaded under his own  
inspection, and discharged as *random*  
*shots*, hit or miss, among his mendi-  
cant customers. My feelings being  
thus easily tranquillized under the pre-  
vious apprehensions of the direful con-  
sequences in which I had involved  
myself in the bold encounter with so  
renowned a doctor, I shall now en-  
deavour to dispose of the quack's asser-  
tion, that my attack was "cowardly  
as it was false."

In answer to the first charge, I con-  
sider it incumbent upon him who  
proposes an innovation upon the esta-  
blished routine of medical practice, to  
prove by irrefragable evidence the  
purity of his own motives, before he  
proceeds to insinuate by implication a  
dereliction of duty on the part of those  
practitioners who are better qualified  
than himself, to take the charge of the  
public health, and more particularly



the "diseased poor;" and I contend every man who thus presumes to censure by a sort of side wind, the conduct of other persons, and to attempt to found upon such imputed inattention, a quacking institution for his own personal emolument, and that too under the specious and hypocritical cloak of an affected and canting expression of his benevolent feelings. Every such person renders himself a fair object of criticism and legitimate suspicion, and more particularly when it is recollected Zebedee Dunkin's appeal to the public purse, was not made by calling a meeting in an open and manly manner; but the project was set afloat by artifice and intrigue, and the ramifications of this empirical plot were developed in a smuggled and secret convention, held in the private dwelling house of his benevolent brother-in-law, and from thence were circulated in solemn puritanical form, among the credulous portion of the community, the printed circulars announcing the formation of this magical and wonder working institution, dated as they are from the residence of the "noble chairman" in Charlotte row, prove the truth of my report; and let then the public decide on whose side the charge of cowardice truly appertains, on mine for having the audacity to expose the true nature of an artful and designing specimen of knavery; or rather on his who chose to retreat within the privileged recesses of a private mansion, to mature and arrange a plan, in the exercise of which, he was conspiring to palm an imposition upon the public.

Next to the grossly improper manner in which this empirical drama has been got up, I have argued the utter incapacity of the aspiring superintendent to discharge the highly important duties which devolve upon the surgeon of a public dispensary, and in proof of my assertion, I ask this pretender to "Æsculapian" fame, in what public school did he by actual dissection of the human body, and by a regular and sufficient attendance upon the instructions of the various lecturers on anatomy, surgery, physic, and the other collateral branches of the science, attain the necessary and indispensable qualifications every virtuous man must

wish to possess, before he could venture to offer himself as a medical candidate to any public charity! I look in vain throughout the printed lists of the college of surgeons, and the worshipful company of apothecaries for the name of Zebedee Dunkin, but alas it does not grace the annual registers of those corporate bodies!!! Genius and talent like his, despises the customary forms of education; but let him recollect before he ventures a second time to give the lie direct, it is incumbent upon him (if he has any hope of retaining this list of subscribing friends) to answer the interrogatories I have now put to him, and to prove by other evidence than mere assertion that that which I have written is "false."

I am Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

T. TRUEMAN.

Bermondsey, Sept. 1st, 1821.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

ABOUT three years ago I was silly enough to be duped by some encomiums published in the European Mag. on S— C— and to consult that mock knight on a disease which he professed to have made his particular study. I found him pompous, and partaking greatly of the character of a man exceedingly avaricious; but as I exposed his conduct in the Medico-Chirurgical Review, the Editor of which work was pleased to insert the correspondence which took place between him and myself, I merely propose, in my present communication, to refer your readers to that work for an exposition of the knight's ignorant pretensions, and to express my surprize at seeing such a man down in the Court Calendar as surgeon to a certain public dispensary. I think, Sir, that you will agree with me, that such an appointment conferred on such a man is calculated to reflect censure on the nominally respectable Directors of that Institution, and it must excite the



astonishment of your readers to perceive the names of Wilberforce and Sir Robert Peel as Vice-Presidents of an Institution, whose surgeon is such a man *who cures cancer without recourse to the knife*, obtains honours in a manner peculiar to himself, and divides his time alternately in mangling his majesty's subjects and the English grammar. Trusting that this may attract the attention of the subscribers to the above Institution,

I am, Sir, &c.

THOS. MORTIMER.

Paradise Tower, Sept. 9, 1824.



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

Mr. Bevil, the magistrate of Worship Street, underwent the operation of cutting for the stone in the bladder, it was performed by Sir Astley Cooper.

*Accident to Sir Astley Cooper.*—This gentleman has received a hurt in the knee, it was reported that the patella was fractured, but this is contradicted.

*Consultation Extraordinary.*—Mr. Abernethy, was absolutely sent for the other day, to consult with Jordan the Quack, upon a case of liver complaint. The professor did not know how matters stood, until he entered the patient's room; *He absolutely foamed at the mouth with rage*, when he was told who was to meet him, and has not said a civil word to a patient since!

*A spleen ossified.*—The spleen of a man has been lately exhibited which was entirely ossified. This man lived to be sixty years old, and then died of a fall. He was remarkably gay, though his spleen was entirely ossified; this would seem to contradict the common received opinion, that the spleen was necessary to purify the blood, and in that sense contributes to render people

gay. It weighed an ounce and a half.

*A worm found in the longitudinal sinus.*—It was reported at the Society of Medicine of Bourdeaux, that a boy five years old complained of a constant pain at the root of his nose. He had a hectic on him, and at the end of three months died in strong convulsions. When his head was opened, a worm like our earth-worms, four inches long, was found in the longitudinal sinus. This worm lived from six in the morning till three in the afternoon.

*A bequest of two blind eyes.*—Mr. Mery, surgeon, had a bequest made him by a clergyman of both his eyes, to discover the cause of his blindness for the common good of mankind. In one, the crystalline was both ulcerated and become opaque. The aqueous humour was very muddy, and the vitreous humour lost a considerable part of its transparency. In the other eye, all the humours were nearly in their natural state, so that the rays of light might easily traverse them; but the optic nerve in both eyes was quite withered and dried up. The clergyman's blindness was therefore irremediable.

*The Œsophagus through accident closing up, the cause of Death.*—A lady of about fifty happened to swallow a bone of a carp, which stuck so in the Œsophagus, that it could neither be extracted, nor protruded into the stomach. Whatever she took, she constantly threw it up in about half an hour after with great strainings, next to a suffocation, and nearly in the same quantity, and very little altered. M. Littré, who attended her the two last months of her illness, seeing there was no possibility of removing the impediment in the Œsophagus, and that she was gradually wasting in her flesh, thought of supporting her, for some time at least, by clysters. He accordingly ordered three to be taken every day, one in the morning, the second at noon, and the third in the evening; these clysters were made of good strong broth, to which the yolk of an egg, and sometimes a gill of wine, was added. She died at last after fourteen months illness, worn



out to a perfect skeleton, without either fever, pain or any other complaint whatever, and in her perfect senses. She died merely for want of being able to take the proper quantity of food necessary to support nature. This case contradicts the old maxim, *neme fine febre moritur*. Upon opening her, the upper part of the pharinx was found greatly dilated, while its lower parts were so closed up, as to be scarce a line in diameter, through which all the liquid food the deceased could take was to pass.

All the tubes in an animal body are

known to close up, when the fluids cease moving through them. This was this lady's case. The œsophagus through the above obstruction closed up. The stomach which in all other bodies is in a horizontal situation, was here length ways, reaching to the navel, of a cylindrical form, nine inches long by two and a half broad. The ligament of the liver was greatly relaxed, and all the intestines were much narrower than usual, all owing to the length of time the deceased lived without being able to take in a proper quantity of food.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INDISCREET must take salts, drink largely of linseed tea, and remain quiet for a week when he may again write.

G. J. It is probable that the disease is from the lungs; but perhaps encreased by indigestion. Attend to the bowels and take the mixture formerly prescribed, occasionally he may take porter. Grapes and all sub-acid fruit, are wholesome in his case. Let him write in a month.

GEORGE.—The Iodine as recommended by Doctor Gardener, wont be a prudent medicine in the case of your wife. Frequently bathing the jaw with a hot decoction of camomile will also be proper. For the child give one grain of calomel, and two of antimonial, or James's powder, every third night for a fortnight, and then a dose of senna tea. His hints are useful to us, some of them have been anticipated; we thank him.

A. L.—Rum and oil is the best thing to beautify the hair, but first clean it well either with soap and water, or alcohol.

Miss J. W's criticisms please us, we like to be noticed by the fair sex; and in this case feel the compliments fully.—Cold fluids are best certainly.

A VICTIM TO INDISCRETION, is informed that we cannot treat fully upon the complaint arising from *evil habits of schools*, in the "Medical Adviser;" but will shortly publish a *separate* little work upon them.

J. C. jun. of Bridlington Quey, has been written to.

R. C. Norway Street, either takes mercury, or is employed where there is sulphur: if not he will oblige us by sending us word what is the nature of his employment.

G. BAINS—Wash the body with vinegar. But the best way to destroy the fleas, is by baking the bed clothes. Another remedy (but we think it too tedious) is to catch each flea and poison him with *rakisiri*.

R. T. G. H. must keep from cold, and try what a clove of garlic, put into each ear, will do.

The vulnerary spirit which is alluded to in our last, shall be given in our next Number. The recipe we mislaid.

We stated in our last that the story about the Dey of Algiers's daughter, was in our first number, it is in our *second*.

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THE GLUTTON.

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## THE GLUTTON.

(See the Plate.)

TALK of the drunkard!—why, the glutton is ten times worse. The man who indulges in the bottle, although he undermines his constitution and cuts his way to a premature grave, lives—while he does live—in a sort of negative bliss of his own. He has at least the roaring jollity of merry souls to compensate for his short life, and the diseases with which he is to suffer. But the glutton is sensible to all the horrors of disease, without the power even of palliating them by forgetfulness. He has no pleasure but in eating; and that lasts so short a time, that the intervals between his beastly meals are hell to him. He has no mind—no ideas but of cookery. The *almanack des gourmands* is his library, and he *stomachs* nothing that does not savour of the kitchen. He takes up the newspaper, when his paunch is filled, only to look out for the best patent medicine for promoting appetite and curing indigestion. He takes no exercise, but a waddle from the soup-house to the tavern, and from the tavern to his bed. He has no acquaintance but those who share his board, and no associate but his dog, who is as fat as himself. Six hours of his day is spent in his favourite employment—eating; and the remainder in cursing the gout and the doctors, eructating the superabundant gases of gastronomic concoction, and envying every hungry-looking face he meets. Thus passes away a few brief years, and he rolls into the grave a rich dish for the worms.

## OF CHILDREN TONGUE-TIED.

THIS disorder of children newly born, of being tongue-tied, is not near so great an evil as the good women but too often imagine; it is not therefore so necessary to cut it, at least till it is observed to prevent or retard their speech; as to the child's sucking, if a new-born in-

fant can advance his tongue to his lips, the string can never prevent his sucking; it is in this case only, that this string should be cut early, many and fatal consequences have been known to follow the too early cutting this string.

Surgeon Petit was called to a child, who had this string cut immediately after his birth; he was found stifled five hours after, the tongue was found doubled back, with its point in the *pharynx*. Some time after he was called to another child, who had this string cut two hours after it was born; this tongue was likewise doubled, but upon its being timely redressed, the child's life was saved for that time, but it soon after doubled itself; here again Surgeon Petit replaced the tongue, and contrived a kind of bandage to retain it in its place; this bandage consisted of a compress, two inches long, one and a quarter broad and half an inch thick, sowed to a proper bandage, and tied round the chin; this was to be taken off every time the child wanted to suck; but through the carelessness of the nurse, in not putting it on in the night, the child was found suffocated next morning; his tongue had entered the *pharynx*.

Surgeon Petit was called to a third child, which he carefully watched to take off and put on the above bandage, as often as it was necessary, and by that means saved his life.

These observations direct us, first, never to cut this string in young infants, but when it evidently prevents their sucking; secondly, when it is cut, to have the nurse ready to give it the breast; for it is the hemorrhage more or less that ensues, that first begins the evil; the child endeavouring to suck this blood, doubles naturally his tongue, which is now no longer retained by its *frenulum*, and the more he sucks, the more blood comes, till he comes at last to double his tongue, and is suffocated; this precaution of giving the breast to a child, whose string is just cut, extends as much to a newly born child, though the string had not been cut; for



through a neglect of this kind, the child often doubles his tongue, and by that means chokes himself; Surgeon *Petit* met a case of the kind, where they were obliged to keep a watch night and day for three weeks, to prevent a new born child from swallowing his tongue; this child had often in an hour a stifling; somebody by mere chance happened to put a finger into his mouth, for he had not yet got the breast, as the nurse was not yet arrived; the child had no sooner felt the finger in his mouth than he began eagerly to suck it, which presently removed the stifling; they took care to keep a finger always in his mouth, till the nurse came, who gave him the breast, which he sucked eagerly; they were still obliged to keep a close watch to put a finger into his mouth the instant he awoke, otherwise he would be in danger of being suffocated; however, by being careful to give the breast to the child the instant he awoke, so as to keep the tongue employed, the tongue at length became settled in its place, and the child did very well after.

That the *Negroes* can in an instant deprive themselves of life, by doubling their tongue in the above manner, is a fact too well known to be doubted of; as therefore an adult can swallow his tongue, so might an infant, and the more easily, after its frenulum had been unnecessarily cut.

When upon cutting this frenulum, either the artery or venæ raninæ are opened, Surgeon *Petit* has contrived a bandage to stop the hemorrhage; for this purpose, he gets a forked stick which he shapes, so that its trunk is four lines only long, and the branches of the fork eight lines long; he covers this fork-like stick with a fine linen rag; he fixes the little handle against the lower jaw under the tongue; the little fork embraces the tongue, and by that means keeps it steady, and prevents its moving from side to side, and at the same time presses against the cut vessel; for the more effectual pressure on the cut vessel, he gets a fillet eight or ten lines

broad, and a yard long, with which he depresses the tongue against the wooden fork; he lays his fillet as far back on the tongue as the commissure of the jaw will suffer him; he brings it down under the chin as close to the larynx as he can, without incommoding it; he there crosses the ends of his fillet, and pins each end on the back of the child's cap; this fillet presses the tongue against the wooden fork, which being supported by the lower jaw, forms a counter pressure on the vessel; the hemorrhage is by that means soon stopped, and as the tongue is kept fixed, the vessel soon closes.

#### ANOTHER GOOD CHAPTER ON INDIGESTION.

How large a share in the business of digestion is managed by mastication, has been shewn by the experiments of Spallanzani.

\* To chew long and leisurely, is the only way to extract the essence of our food—to enjoy the taste of it, and to render it easily convertible into laudable chyle; by the facility it gives to the gastric juices to dissolve it without trouble.

The pleasure of the palate, and the health of the stomach, are equally promoted by this salutary habit, which all should be taught to acquire in their infancy.

The more tender meat is, the more we may eat of it. That which is most difficult to chew, is of course most difficult to digest.

From thirty to forty (according

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\* "The necessity of mastication is sufficiently known; there is perhaps no person who has not, some time or other, suffered from indigestion, for want of having chewed his food properly. The reason is obvious. Not to mention the saliva which moistens the food, and predisposes it to be dissolved, it cannot be doubted, that when it is reduced to pieces by the action of the teeth, the gastric fluid penetrates, and attacking it at more points, dissolves it more speedily than when it was whole. This is true of menstrua in general, which always dissolve bodies sooner when they have been previously broken to pieces. This is also the reason why, in other experiments, masticated bread and dressed flesh were more readily dissolved than unchewed bread and raw flesh. The boiling had made it tenderer, and consequently disposed it to allow ingress to the gastric fluid."—SPALLANZANI on Digestion, vol. i. p. 277.



to the tenderness of the meat) has been calculated as the mean number of munches that solid meat requires, to prepare it for its journey down the *red lane*; less will be sufficient for tender, delicate, and easily digestible white meats.

The sagacious gourmand will calculate this precisely, and not waste his precious moments in useless jaw-work, or invite an indigestion by neglecting mastication.

I cannot give any positive rules for this; it depends on the state of the teeth.\* Every one, especially the dyspeptic, ought to ascertain the condition of these useful working tools; and to use them with proportionate diligence, is an indispensable exercise which every rational epicure will most cheerfully perform, who has any regard for the welfare of his stomach.

It has been recommended, that those whose teeth are defective should mince their meat; this certainly will save trouble to both teeth and stomach. Nevertheless, it is adviseable, let the meat be minced ever so fine, to endeavour to mumble it into a pulp before it be introduced to the stomach, on account of the advantage derived from its admixture with the saliva.

"By experiment, I determined the quantity of saliva secreted in half an hour to be, whilst the parts were at rest—four drachms, whilst eating—five ounces four drachms."—*Stark on Diet*, p. 99.

Mastication is the source of all good digestion; with its assistance, almost any thing may be put into any stomach with impunity; without it, digestion is always difficult, and often impossible; and be it always remembered, it is not merely what we eat, but what we digest well, that nourishes us.

The sagacious gourmand is ever mindful of his motto—

"Masticate, denticate, champ, grind, and swallow."

The four first acts he knows he

must perform properly, before he dare attempt the fifth.

To those who may inadvertently exercise their masticative faculties on unworthy materials, or longer on worthy ones than nature finds convenient, we recommend Peristaltic Persuaders.

When either the teeth or stomach are extremely feeble, especial care must be taken to keep meat till it is tender, before it is cooked, and call in the aid of the pestle and mortar; or dress in the usual way whatever is best liked, mince it, put it into a mortar, and pound it with a little broth or melted butter, vegetable, herb, spice, zest, &c. according to the taste, &c. of the eater. The business of the stomach is thus very materially facilitated.

"Mincing or pounding meat saveth the grinding of the teeth; and therefore (no doubt) is more nourishing, especially in age, or to them that have weak teeth; but butter is not proper for weak bodies, and therefore moisten it in pounding with a little claret wine, and a very little cinnamon or nutmeg."—*Lord Bacon's Natural History*.

This is important advice for those who are afflicted with the "tic douloureux," the paroxysm of which is generally provoked by the exercise of eating. The Editor has known that dreadful disorder perfectly cured by the patient frequently taking food thus prepared in small portions, instead of a regular meal.

The teeth should be cleaned after every meal with a tooth preserver, (i. e. a very soft brush) and then rinsed with tepid water; never neglect this at night; nothing destroys the teeth so fast as suffering food to stick between them. Those who observe this rule will seldom have any occasion for dentifrices, essences of ivory, indurating liquid, enamels, &c.

But it is the rage just now with some dentists, to recommend brushes so hard, that they fetch blood like a lancet wherever they touch; instead of "teeth preservers," these should rather be termed "gum bleeders."

\* In no branch of the practice of physic is there more dangerous quackery than in this department. The only means we can furnish our friends with to avoid this, is to recommend them to apply to a scientific dentist of acknowledged integrity and experience.



Not even a philosopher can endure the tooth-ache patiently;—what an overcoming agony then it must be to a *grand gourmand*! depriving him of the means of enjoying an amusement which, to him, is the grand solace for all sublunary cares. To alleviate, and indeed generally to cure this intolerable pain, we recommend

*Toothache and Anti-rheumatic  
Embrocation.*

Sal Volatile, three parts,  
Laudanum, one part.

Mix,—rub the part in pain therewith frequently. If the tooth which aches is hollow, drop some of this on a bit of cotton, and put it into the tooth; if the pain does not abate within an hour, take out the cotton, and put another piece in, changing it every hour four or five times till the pain ceases.

In a general face-ache, or sore throat, moisten a piece of flannel with it, and put it to the part affected; rub any part afflicted with rheumatism night and morning, and in the middle of the day. I have frequently cured old and inveterate rheumatic affections with this liniment.

## INTRODUCTION OF VACCINATION AT CEYLON.

VACCINATION was attempted to be introduced among the Kandyans in the year 1816. This measure was greatly disliked both by the chiefs and the inferior classes of the people. At that period they were unfriendly towards us from various causes, and little disposed to promote the views of government, however much these might tend eventually to their advantage. To obviate the prejudices of the lower classes against vaccination, every means which promised to be useful was attempted; and particular care was taken to conciliate the good will of the chiefs, for the purpose of gaining their assistance to promote its dissemination. The courtly manners of the upper ranks of the Kandyans prevented them from evincing an active hostility to the measure;

indeed they rarely disapprove, in an open manner, of the conduct or plans of their respective superiors. In consequence of this apparent acquiescence, we were sometimes deceived into a hope that they intended to give their assistance to extend vaccination. Experience proved that our expectations were not well founded. Kappitapole, a principal leader in the insurrection of 1817 and 1818, was the only chief of consequence who submitted to vaccination himself, and had all his children vaccinated. The people of influence were either indifferent or hostile to our endeavours in this respect.

In regard to the lower classes, many of them expressed their disapproval of the innovation in very decided terms. Still, however, some progress was made in extending the advantages of the Jennerian discovery.

The senior medical officer in the Kandyan provinces was appointed by government to superintend the extension of vaccination among the inhabitants. Under him were placed vaccinators, who were generally half-caste people, who could speak the Singhalese language. As none of the Kandyans applied to be vaccinated, or with that view came to the military stations, they were visited by the vaccinators, who perambulated the country for that purpose.

Many of the objections made to vaccination by the people appeared to be extremely frivolous and absurd. Their influence was, however, very strong. A great portion of the diseases with which mankind are occasionally afflicted, the Kandyans ascribe to the influence of malignant spirits. Small-pox are, however, supposed to have a divine origin. This disease they believed to be caused by the goddess Patina (Deyane Karia), whose province they profess to be extremely unwilling to invade. Being anxious to court the favour of the goddess, the people speak of small-pox patients in terms of great respect. Her influence is seen in every thing which regards the prevention or



prevalence, the harmlessness or comparative danger, of small-pox.

To submit to vaccination was by some considered in the light of an oath of allegiance to the English government, and as a mark of having abandoned all attachment to the old order of things. By many, vaccination was considered as practised for the purpose of producing a permanent cicatrix on the arm, and that by this mark the officers of government would call out individuals for personal service. Impressed with this belief, the Kandyans endeavoured, by various means, to evade the imaginary evil consequences of vaccination. For this purpose, they frequently gave a false name to the person who vaccinated them, thereby often misleading and confounding the vaccinators.

With the view of inducing the people to submit to vaccination, a petty officer of government occasionally accompanied the vaccinators. This measure was adopted partly for the purpose of protecting them from insult, and partly to show to the people that the extension of vaccination was sanctioned and promoted by government. Through these means some of the inhabitants were occasionally prevailed upon to submit to vaccination. Long accustomed to the oppression of arbitrary control, the Kandyans often acquiesce with the expressed will of Government, without evincing much reluctance. Submission is, however, no proof that the measure has their approbation. To elude the influence of the chiefs, and to evade the imposts and orders of Government, is the habitual study of almost all classes of the Singhalese.

After having quietly submitted to the operation, it was not uncommon for individuals to take an early opportunity of bathing, seemingly for the purpose of preventing the insertion of the lymph from being effectual. At other times they were detected rubbing *chuman* (quicklime), or the juice of limes, upon the spot where the lymph had recently been inserted, no doubt with a similar intention.

The Kandyans very unwillingly permit the approach of any stranger near to their dwellings. In this, and

in almost every other respect, their prejudices have always met with due consideration. However cautiously the vaccinators may conduct themselves, they are frequently exposed to much abuse from the inhabitants. It has not therefore been deemed prudent to attempt to vaccinate the people at any considerable distance from a military post. On account of the unaccommodating disposition of the inhabitants, and the dislike they have to vaccination, it is very frequently impossible for the vaccinators to obtain an opportunity of watching the issue of the insertion of the lymph. Instead of coming at regular intervals to the vaccinators for inspection, they generally endeavour to elude their search.

Other difficulties of a very important nature occur to prevent a satisfactory and secure vaccination of the people, namely, the frequency with which they disturb or destroy the vaccine vesicle, thereby occasioning an ulcerative inflammation, which is supposed to be inconsistent with the certain influence of the prophylactic. This is often done voluntarily, for the purpose, as individuals state, to relieve them from the pain and tension of the skin near to the vesicle. Perhaps, however the vesicle is more frequently ruptured by accident during sleep. In general, the Kandyans sleep upon a coarse mat. without any personal covering, which might prevent the vesicle from injury. A habit of scratching, wherever the skin itches, is another frequent cause of the rupture of the vesicle. Perhaps this habit arises from the great liability of the Kandyans to scabies. The vaccinators have always been particularly directed to discriminate carefully between an unexceptionable vesicle, and a pustular elevation of the cuticle, the frequent consequence of abrasion, and other mechanical sources of injury.

Vaccination is therefore, in the interior of Ceylon, liable to sources of failure and uncertainty, little known in more enlightened communities. In consequence of the heat of the climate, and the inveterate aversion the inhabitants have to present themselves at fixed stations for the purpose of being vaccinated by a medical officer, and regularly seen by him during the course of the disease, the operative part of the



duty must devolve upon an uneducated class of people, famed neither for intelligence nor veracity.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES

(Continued from page 201.)

### OF THE EYES.

**HIP.** Drinking of strong wine, a bath or fomentation, bleeding or purge, cures the pain of the eyes.

**COOK.** Wine and baths are to be in the declination; bleeding is to be on the contrary arm, and oft, if need; after purge, but with minoratives, such as allay the heat of the blood.

**HIP.** We must consider in sleep, if any part of the eye appear; for if any of the white appear, the eyelid being not fast closed, if it happen not by a flux of the belly, or by the taking of a purge, it is all ill and very deadly.

**COOK.** Unless it happen from some external cause, it shews the resolution of the animal faculties, and exhausting of the brain.

### OF THE NOSE.

**HIP.** Those whose nostrils are more moist than ordinary, and their seed also, are subject to diseases, and are not well; but if contrary, they enjoy health.

**COOK.** For the one shews the viciousness of the brain; the other of the whole body.

### OF SNEEZING.

**HIP.** If in labour, or the mother, there be sneezing, it is good.

**COOK.** The birth coming rightly, sneezing may further it, because it vehemently shakes the parts, and excites the birth, and so casts it out; only first giving something inward to provoke it. For the mother, it cheers up the languishing heat, and shakes off the matter and vapours, the cause thereof.—*Note,* In all acute diseases sneezing is good: but in affects of the breasts and lungs, ill; both as a sign, and a cause.

**HIP.** Sneezing coming from the head is caused either from the heat of the brain, or the spaces being

moist; for the air contained within is poured out, and makes a noise by reason of the narrowness of the passages through which it comes.

**COOK.** He here speaks only of that sneezing caused by nature's motion, desiring to drive out flatulent spirits out of the head.

### OF THE MOUTH, AND TONGUE.

**HIP.** Those which stammer in their speech, are oft troubled with great fluxes.

**COOK.** They are not such, which repeat the same word over again; but those which cannot pronounce the letter R, and these are of a moist temper.

### OF CATARRHS.

**HIP.** Rheums descending down to the mouth, and falling down to the throat, do not come to concoction in those which are old.

**COOK.** From the coldness of their bodies: and if catarrhs cannot, much less asthmas, and gout, cholic, spleen, &c.

### COUGH.

**HIP.** Cold things, as snow and ice, are hurtful to the breast; they procure coughs, ruptures of the veins, and rheums.

**COOK.** Extreme cold is unprofitable.

**HIP.** If a cough upon a dropsy, it is ill.

**COOK.** Because it signifies that the watery humour is increased, that it hath seized on the windpipe, and so causes danger of suffocation.

### ASTHMA.

**HIP.** Those whose backs bunch forward from asthma, or cough, before ripe age, die.

**COOK.** For the heart and lungs being increased and so straitened for room; they fall short of those years, which otherwise they might live.

### QUINSEY.

**HIP.** If a suffocation come presently upon a fever, and there is no tumour in the jaws, it is deadly.

**COOK.** For this stops the passage,



and therefore they strangle in the same day, and in the second, third, and fourth.

HIP. If any one inflicted with a fever, the neck being suddenly turned awry, and can scarce swallow, and no swelling appear, it is deadly.

Cook. He speaks of a quinsy from a luxation of the vertebræ, and it discovers that the inflammation is inward, and may cause suffocation.

HIP. If a tumour appear in the neck of him that hath a quinsy, it is good; for the disease is turned outward.

Cook. It shews nature strong to cast out the morbid matter.

HIP. Whosoever is freed from a quinsy, if it pass to the lungs, they die within seven days; but if they live longer, it comes to suppuration.

Cook. Because it is cast to a noble part; which, if strong, may produce an empyema, and so deliver from death.

#### INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

HIP. If a diarrhœa follow upon a pleurisy, or inflammation of the lungs, it is ill.

Cook. It is to be understood of a pleurisy, in which there is so great an inflammation, that the liver and stomach consent therewith; or when the strength is so gone by the disease, that the retentive faculty is almost spent; but if the pleurisy be not so great, and be in a body full of ill humours, the flux of the belly then useth to be healthful, especially if any signs of concoction went before. In the inflammation of the lungs it is most dangerous.

HIP. If an inflammation of the lungs follow a pleurisy, it is ill.

Cook. For it is a translation of the matter to a more noble part, which is ill; and the strength being spent by the foregoing disease, it is worse able to bear a worse disease.

#### PLEURISY; OR, PAIN IN THE SIDE.

HIP. In the pains of the sides, breast, and other parts, we must consider whether they increase, differ much, or keep a stay.

Cook. Whether they differ, namely, in their kind, or in their vehemency; whether they be pricking, stretching, or provoking.

HIP. They are not subject to the pleurisy that have acid eructations.

Cook. For these are from phlegm, and it is more dense, than easily to pass into pleura; only observe, such may have grievous pains of the sides from wind, which ease with fomentation.

HIP. Those which have a pleurisy, unless they be purged upward in fourteen days, shall have the disease turn into an imposture.

Cook. Some extend it to the twentieth day.

HIP. If a pleurisy turn into an empyema, if the patient be not purged within forty days after the breaking of the aposteme, it degenerates into a consumption.

Cook. For the matter otherwise will be so putrid, as to perish the lungs; it often turns into a phthisis before forty days.

#### EMPYEMA.

HIP. Whilst matter is concocting, pain and fever is more than when it is concocted.

Cook. This shews when to know the disease to be in the state, *i. e.* when pain is greatest; when concocted, it declines.

HIP. Blood preternaturally sent into the belly, suppurateth of necessity.

Cook. But the suppuration is not always true, and properly so called, but rather named corruption, of which there is matter like quitter produced; this blood may come from a vein wounded.

HIP. Distillation in the upper belly suppurates in twenty days.

Cook. By belly understand the breast; the phlegm there putrifying doth not beget a true pus, or matter, but somewhat like it, as may be observed in phlegmatic tumours, as atheromas, &c. which are a kind of apostemes.

HIP. After the breaking of an inward tumour, there is faintness, vomiting, and defect of understanding.

Cook. These are signs of inward



tumours, especially those of the stomach.

HIP. If after spitting blood there follow spitting of matter, it is ill.

COOK. Spitting of purulent matter doth necessarily follow spitting of blood; for blood often flows from the brain, gums, and throat, without any detriment; therefore it is meant of that spitting only which proceeds from the lungs.

HIP. If being either cut or cauterised in empyema, there flow forth matter pure and white, they escape; but if bloody, foul, and stinking, they die.

COOK. It is not only empyema and dropsies, but in all other imposthumes.

HIP. Whosoever is cut or cauterised for an empyema or a dropsy, if the matter or water wholly flow forth, they certainly die.

COOK. Sudden and total evacuations are extremely dangerous, therefore they must be let out by degrees.

HIP. If suppuration or corrupt matter hidden in the body, do not shew itself, it is by reason of its own thickness, or of the part wherein it lies hid.

COOK. Such imposthumes may be carried many years in the lungs undiscovered, and without any hurt to the body. For this cause, many that have been in perfect health, have suddenly died by an imposthume breaking within.

ED. These are some of the best aphorisms of Hippocrates, and Cook is not very absurd.

### REMEDY FOR WARTS.

THIS excrescence, which so commonly makes its appearance on the hands, face, and other parts of the body, is by the ignorant and superstitious, generally submitted to the action of a charm, held to be infallible by gipseys and mountebanks, who, on being palmed with silver or gold, generally contrive to satisfy the credulous minds of their applicants by cabalistic exhortation: let those who are so affected, instead of attending to such charac-

ters, take one ounce of white arsenic, and two ounces of soda, mix in four ounces of water, and put it into an oil flask, which is to be corked, taking care that a small hole is drilled through the centre of the cork, then place it in a saucepan containing about two quarts of water, over the fire, which should be kept boiling gently, for about four hours, when the ingredients contained in the flask will be formed into the consistence of paste, apply a small portion of it on the wart, with a hair pencil, night and morning, and in a few days it will be effectually removed.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Bathing the limbs affected with rheumatisms with strong beef brine.*

This is a bad remedy;—rubbing them with bruised mustard seeds and warm water is much better.

*For Worms.—New Wort taken fasting.*

Nonsense.—A powder of jalap and calomel is better.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A Tonic Powder for Ricketty Children.*

Myrrh and powder of columba, of each six grains,  
Sulphate of iron, one grain and a half,  
Mix.—To be taken twice a-day.

*Another.*

Of subcarbonate of iron, six grains,  
Powdered rhubarb, four grains,  
White sugar powdered, eight grains.  
Mix.—This morning and evening.

### VULNERARY SPIRIT :

*Alluded to in No. 41.*

Get thyme, mother of thyme, sage, marjorum, rosemary, and lavender leaves and flowers, a handful of each; macerate them in mead, and distil them after.



## CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

SMALL POX AND COW POX  
*at one Time in a Child.**To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

SHOULD any testimony be necessary to enhance the value of that important discovery of Jenner's, which has proved a blessing to the rising generation, I beg to offer a short outline of the case of my own child, which occurred in January, 1823. I was at that period attending a patient labouring under confluent small pox; and having an infant which had not been submitted to the action of the vaccine virus, I naturally concluded it was likely to receive the infection. From delay and difficulty in procuring the virus to my satisfaction, nine days passed over before I vaccinated the child; on the third day the areola had begun to form, and the pustule appeared rising in regular progression; on the following day a pustule appeared on the left side of the nose, bearing every characteristic mark of small pox, and kept up that appearance until the fourth day, when it put on anomalous form, and quickly disappeared. In the meantime the areola, which was forming around the vaccine pustule, dispersed, and the pustule itself assumed that of the spurious disease so common from the introduction of impure vaccine virus into the system, as well as from constitutional causes; but little febrile action took place during the whole progress, and the child was perfectly recovered on the sixteenth day. From the peculiarity of the case, I took the opportunity of shewing it to two physicians, who accorded with me in opinion, that the small pox infection had been received into the system, and fell under the more rapid action of the vaccine virus, producing in reality the end which is sought for, by the introduction of either disease. I subsequently vaccinated the child, without its producing the slightest action.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. K. N.

Oxford-street, London Hospital,  
September 14, 1824.

## VENEREAL DISEASE.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*  
SIR,

SHOULD the following remarks on secondary lues, and mercurial disease, be considered worthy of insertion in your publication, you are at liberty to use them, and as you have not yet treated on the subject, I shall be happy to supply your columns with that information experience has given me in a variety of cases, which had long been submitted to medical treatment.

There is perhaps no disease which from its own particular action, and the treatment necessary for its removal acting upon previously diseased constitutions, assumes a greater variety of forms, than the venereal disease, it is now about three hundred and thirty-six years since its introduction into Europe, and we have extant upwards of four hundred different treatises upon the subject, by authors of great reputation, independent of the notice which has been taken of it, in almost every book that has been written on physic.

We may suppose lues venerea to have existed for full two thousand years, according to the statement of many who have written on it, how is it then that the ancients should have omitted to mention so remarkable and common a disorder, if it had been among them, particularly, as when undisguised by mercury, it could not have been misunderstood? How comes it to pass, if the disease existed before the era of the return of Columbus, that no author should have specifically written upon it before that era, and that it has since been the subject of so many writers? There is however a strong ground entertained, that lues venerea first made its appearance in Europe, in the year 1494, which may be learned from the testimonies of all physical writers, who then flourished in Italy, and treated of the origin of the distemper. It would take up too much time at the present to enter on its origin in Europe. I shall therefore confine myself to a few observations on its nature and action. It appears to be a poison, *sui generis*, one peculiar to the human subject. Poisonous disease is propagated either through morbid



effluvia, or poisonous fluid conveyed from a diseased subject, and lodged in a sound one. Plague and small pox, come under the former description, and may be termed contagious diseases; lues venerea, and bites of venomous and rabid animals are instances of the latter, and may be termed infectious diseases. The distinction between these diseases is evident; for although contagious disease can be propagated like infectious disease by inoculation; yet infectious disease cannot be propagated by effluvia, at least it has not yet been proved to our satisfaction, that what is defined to be an infectious disease, is possessed of that power.

Mercury, on which we depend so much for the removal of lues venerea, and which in the hands of the judicious practitioner, may be almost said to possess talismanic powers, was first applied to the purposes of medicine by Arabian physicians, prior to the knowledge of its use amongst us. Rhazis, an Arabian author, recommended an ointment in which quicksilver was an ingredient, for the cure of cutaneous eruptions. Berengarius, Carpus, and others, who practised at the time lues venerea appeared in Europe, first tried the effect of mercury, in the form of an ointment and plaster, for the cure of cutaneous eruptions succeeding venereal infection.

An analogical application of mercury was not long neglected, and its application by the first physicians confirmed the intentions; Berengarius of Carphi, is said to have acquired a fortune by the practice of this secret alone. To him, and to John de Vigo, this important knowledge was chiefly confined. From their success, and the candor of Vigo, and Fallopius, mercury became the established antidote to venereal poison: and notwithstanding it has been subject to the grossest abuses, and has fallen into temporary disrepute, from a wrong and injudicious application of it, yet it is approved as the only real and effectual antidote for extinguishing the venereal poison from the constitution of an infected subject. We cannot too much deplore the many lamentable cases that daily occur from the action of mercury, under the hands of the incautious and unskilful practitioners, producing

in many instances, a disease more serious than that which they are attempting to subdue, and in others mistaking a mercurial for a venereal affection; thus, most of the fatal and supposed incurable cases of lues venerea, would prove to be instances of the mercurial disease, and that the anti-venereal powers ascribed to guaiacum, sarsaparilla, nuzereon, &c. &c. would be considered as founded in error.

Considering how very active a stimulus mercury is, we are less surprised to find that it is so often the occasion of disease; that its reception into the circulation is soon followed by an increased irritability of every fibre; that the pulse becomes quicker and harder; and that secutions, particularly of the salivary glands, are all in a state of great excitement. How much then does it behove the young practitioner in all instances to be cautious in its administration, and more particularly, where he has reason to suppose that the disease under which his patient labours, is the effect of mercurial influence or the system, and not that of the venereal poison. Sometimes the venereal virus, we know, affects certain bones with hard circumscribed tumours, attended with very considerable pain; and these nodes, as they are called, will at last terminate in caries and exfoliation. While the affection remains truly venereal, mercury can alone cure it, and in these cases it must be a very decided course. If the mercurial preparation, which is applied, be not a proper one; if there be no affection produced on the mouth and secretions, and the patient be irregular; in that case the venereal action, during the cure, will be suppressed, and these nodes and caries, like the bubo and sore throat, may take on a new action; nay, they may become mercurial, and the mercury, if it be now continued, will aggravate the disease, which, assuming a new form, may be classed under those affections which the celebrated Mr. Abernethy terms pseudo syphilitic.

A patient who was under my care, had for sixteen months, at separate intervals, been under mercurial influence for a common ulcerated sore throat, which was mistaken by his medical attendant for secondary lues, although no trace could be made as to



his ever having been infected by venereal virus; the consequence was, that the mode of treatment adopted for the removal of supposed secondary symptoms, produced mercurial ulcerated sore throat, succeeded by affection of the schneiderian membrane, the cartilages, and bones of the nose, with exfoliation of the bones of the palate. The patient was under medical treatment for four months, and left me cured, but much disfigured; he was seen by two of our most eminent men, who were decidedly of opinion that the system had never been infected by the venereal virus. I have had many cases of somewhat a similar nature, which I will forward for insertion in a subsequent number of your publication, should they be deemed worthy of interest.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient Servant,  
W. K. NEWBOLT.

Oxford-street, London Hospital,  
September 13, 1824.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### *First Meeting of the* NEW COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

AT this meeting, which was numerously attended, and which took place last Monday, at White Conduit House, Dr. Courtenay presided; he was proposed by Dr. Eady, and seconded by Dr. Jordan; it was not, however, without opposition; for the name of Dr. Brodum being mentioned by Sir Charles Aldis, as the oldest and most successful practitioner amongst the irregulars, a considerable feeling was manifested in his favour, but Dr. Brodum modestly declined, stating, that he was not sufficiently master of English to preside over so learned a body of men.

Dr. Courtenay was then called to the chair. He began his speech by expressing his acknowledgment for the high honour conferred on him by being chosen President of so enlightened a body, and for that glorious purpose of establishing an opposition College of Physicians. It was particularly grateful to his feelings, at a time when the shafts of envy and malevolence were daily aimed at him. He was convinced that these things proceeded from his enemies, for having fearlessly opposed the old College. He also knew, that their revilings arose in consequence of his starting in the Adelphi, and putting a brass plate upon his door! But while he enjoyed the support and approbation of those he saw around him, he would fearlessly pursue the path he had laid down for himself, namely, to expose, in every shape, the members of a certain College, that falsely styled themselves the most learned body in Europe. They were, in fact, nothing more than a monkish association, that closed its doors against all such men of talent who were at the moment honouring him by their applause. (*hear! hear!*) He would now sit down, as he was anxious that the business for which they had met should be gone into. He hoped that harmony would prevail amongst them whilst they discussed the important facts that were to be brought forward. Theories, he said, had so long usurped the place of facts, that it was high time for this Society to begin the work of reform. (*hear!*)

Dr. —, the successor to Sir Colombine Daniels, presented himself to the Society. He said he had very few words to say to his brethren on this occasion; but few as they were, he hoped that they would prove pithy and acceptable. He, too, had met with all kinds of opprobrium from those who called themselves *regulars*, because he was director of a Board that could cure all diseases, no matter how incurable. The undertakers of London well knew how often it had disappointed them of a black job. (*hear, hear!*) It is very true, gentlemen, (con-



tinued the learned Doctor); they can tell you the same themselves. The Charlotte-street Board has done wonders amongst sick and poor; and to shew how charitable they were, it was unanimously resolved to charge paupers only three shillings and sixpence every time they came for advice. Could this be considered much money, when it was well known that others, not so clever as I be, took a guinea? When Sir Columbine first began business, he hit upon a good plan of making money;—he first set at making life-preservers, but finding it not so good a trade as physic, he left life-preserving to the Humane Society, who know better how to make a penny by it than he did, and took to one that has different effects. (*a laugh.*) For his ability in that and other contrivances, the sword of honour descended on HIS shoulders, and he was made as great a man as many who have sought the “bubble reputation even in the cannon’s mouth.” (*bravo!*) To him I have succeeded, and I trust I will not dishonour such a man. I have now done, gentlemen; I think I have now said enough to shew you that ye need not despair of having the same honour conferred on every member of the Society. For, gentlemen, our king loves physic,—I *know* that he loves it. (*hear! hear! hear!*)

Dr. EADY now got up to address the meeting. He said that he did not intend to take up so much of the time of the meeting with talking of himself as the last speaker had done; but he would beg to read to the Society a paper on a discovery which he had made himself; the subject was upon a mineral which was vulgarly called *chalk*. (*hear! hear!*) The utility of that mineral was beyond all praise. To it he owed all his celebrity in the profession,—every street and dead wall in the metropolis could testify the same. Such were its effects, that young and old, strong and feeble flocked to him for advice. “Nay, gentlemen,” continued the learned Doctor “don’t be surprised when I tell you, that lords have imbibed the general enthusiasm,

and have confessed the efficacy of this potent drug. In short, I expect soon to receive the same honor that my learned friend talked so much about. And do I not deserve some reward for having made my name and Dean-street almost as notorious as a Wellington or a Buonaparte? I do not employ the press in telling the world who I am, for five letters of the alphabet say—speak volumes. While I carried on my old trade as a linen draper I acquired all my talents, and I have since exemplified that few can go beyond me in the art of making a *display*. Gentlemen, seeing your time is hastily passing away, I shall defer the reading of my *paper* until the next meeting; but before I sit down I shall read a resolution, which I purpose moving at some future occasion. My resolution is this——” Here the speaker was interrupted by Dr. Brodum, who said his venison would be cold if the meeting was much longer detained. “*Got for d.—n,*” said he, “make haste vid your speeches.”—Eady sat down.

Sir C. Aldis, Knight, now came forward. He began his speech by congratulating the society on the prospect of a CHARTER being conferred upon them; for his own part he would use all the interest he had at Court to forward their object, and as he had himself obtained the honor of knighthood, no matter by what means, he thought that they might also succeed; and if a little chicanery and trick were resorted to, where was the harm. “Gentlemen,” said the renowned Sir Charles, “I have little or nothing more to tell this meeting; I be also much abused by the *guinea men* for not telling them all my secrets, and because I don’t give the *mercury* in gland complaints. Gentlemen, it irritate and do mischaff, and only stock them the more. Gentlemen, my abalities put me on horseback, and I now rides about the town with my toes turned out, and a Petersham hat on my head, and some says I look like a lord for all the world; who knows, I may be one yet before I dies.” (*Bravo!*)

The learned knight said this with a look of ineffable self-complacency, and sunk in his chair

The next speaker was Dr. Jourdan,



M.D. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. He said he had much to say to the society upon a recent discovery he had made; it was a discovery worthy of tried talents like his; he alluded to that most surprising medicine, the Cordial Balm of *Rackisiri*, a medicine of such transcendent virtue, that it might well employ the pen of the poet, or the cogitation of the metaphysician: it was a dream that opened it to his mind, and he was confident that he should soon be considered a superior being, for having conferred on the world so great a benefit. Solomon's Balm of Gilead would now soon be eclipsed, and the Balm of *Rackisiri* supply its place. Such were the effects that would accrue, if this balm were to be as commonly drank as Noyeau or Claret, that he would take upon himself to predict that we should hear no more complaints of the decline of genius, for the Cordial Balm of Rackisiri would cause Southey to become a better poet, and Cobbett to turn a consistent politician; (*a laugh!*) nay, he would go further, he was convinced that its general use would cause Radical Reform to cease to agitate the minds of Englishmen, and harmony and peace reign throughout the land. (*Hear! hear!*) "And so help me Cot, gentlemen," continued he, "it is only a guinea a bottle." He intended to have said a great deal more on the subject, but finding it was getting late, he would reserve his observations for a future meeting. (*bravo!*) This sapient physician then sat down.

A Surgeon C—— was the next speaker; he was in full dress, and wore gold buckles in his knee-bands. He begged to call the attention of the society to his method of healing certain disorders; his art was to make new *spinal marrow*, and to restore the powers of the human frame. His Commentary would explain all these things, (a work that had gone through *fifteen* editions,) and to it he would refer the meeting. That great work was the result of profound investigations. His insight into disease was such, that he could tell by the white of the eye whether a person was p——d or not; in short, he thought he deserved well of his country, and he

hoped that his name would be hereafter enrolled amongst the benefactors of mankind; (*hear! hear!*) he would not detain the society longer, as there were several other gentlemen who were anxious to address them.

Surgeon Taylor now stood up. He said he was a man of few words, but those he would confine to the subject; he would not talk of poets and metaphysicians, as a learned doctor had done, but would just state, that he considered *the salutary pill* far superior to all the balsams, or balms, however outlandish they were named. ("That's a lie," muttered Dr. Jordan.) He repeated he thought more of his pills than any humbug though they were made of *old leeks*, and he was confident they would outlive the boasted Cordial of Rack-Rack-Racki-Surry. (*a loud laugh*) (*order! order!*) Here the president interfered, and begged the learned gentleman to be less personal in his remarks, and to confine himself to the subject in debate. The learned surgeon was willing to bow to the admonitions of the chair, but he could not bear to be outdone by other men; he had supported a character for erudition and respectability, for many years, and although his establishment was conducted by a firm, he assured the meeting, he had no connexion with the Bridge-street gang, or the Humane Society either; this was all he had to say on the present occasion.

Drs. Cameron and Lang, both rose at the same time, and surveyed each other with looks of ire, for it is said that they are great rivals in the hydro-vesical mysteries; each seemed determined to take precedence of the other, and at length the President decided that Dr. L——g should be first heard. The learned doctor thanked the chairman for his impartiality; he said that the society had heard a great deal about *chalk*, balms, and leeks, and so forth; but he disdained to apply his great talents to such fudge. He had directed his powerful mind to the mysteries of a certain execration, which contained deposits,



and other appearances, that shewed when the disease or health ruled the system. He could tell to which of the sex it had belonged, and also that of cows and horses. But this was not all; he could even distinguish by means of an inspection of that fluid, the constitution of the mental faculties; he could tell whether a man was a fool or a rogue; he could tell by that means whether the husband and wife were faithful to each other; whether the modest maiden be in love; he could discover the prowling fortune hunter, or the heavy or shallow pursed suitor; in short, gentlemen, continued this scientific physician, it would be endless for me to detail all my knowledge of these things to the government; I could be of infinite use, for I could supersede the necessity of spies, as I would point out the jacobin—but I must first bribe his chamber-maid. (*hear! hear! hear!*) I have done, gentlemen, I think I have shewn you, that I have outdone all my contemporaries (*hear! hear!*) During the latter part of the speech, Dr. Cameron had quitted the room, and left his rival master of the field.

Mr. Lynch now endeavoured to address the meeting, on his extraordinary method of curing strictures; but loud cries of question, put an end to his address.

A long string of resolutions were then read; but we have only room for the last two:—

Resolved, "That an humble petition be presented to His M——y, praying that he will be pleased to give to this learned society a *Charter*."

Resolved, "That a meeting be convened to take into consideration the infamous libels of the '*Medical Adviser*.'" (*Carried with acclamation.*) The meeting then broke up.



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Extraordinary sleepiness in a gentleman.*—A counsellor at Lausanne, in Switzerland, gave orders to his servants to set the press to receive his grapes, for it was vintage-time, he all at once lost his senses; those about him thought he had fallen into an apoplexy: he had every thing done for him that is usual in such cases, but all to no purpose; he remained for some weeks in a profound sleep. He would open his eyes, and seemed to look steadfastly at objects, yet it could not be observed whether he really did see, or had any sense; he would take some broth, when given him. All of a sudden he became restless, would fain rise, but all the while without any sense. He had after convulsions, which terminated by a plentiful discharge of pus from his mouth and nose; his lethargy became the more profound after.

When the art of physic had in vain tried every means, an empiric had the honour of the cure. He applied several cupping-glasses to his head; the effect was almost instantaneous,—he began to speak; his senses returned after six months sleepiness. The servant who had received his orders about the press happened to be in the way when he came to his senses; he inquired about the press, as if it was but the morning before he had given his directions about it.

*Extraordinary sleepiness in a young woman.*—This woman was married in April, the 27th of June following she fell asleep, and slept for three days in spite of all endeavours to awake



her. She awoke after of herself, called for bread; and in five or six minutes after, as she was eating her bread, fell fast asleep, and continued asleep for thirteen days; during this time she took nothing, nor had any discharges. Here again she awoke of herself, called for bread,

and fell asleep after; thus she remained for nine days. She continued for about five months, alternately asleep and awake; the longest interval of her being awake was three hours, except once after taking an emetic, when she continued awake twenty-four hours.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A CONSTANT READER's letter shall come in next week.

REBECCA W.—Put a warm plaster of galbanum and Burgundy pitch on the chest, and let it remain on; also take five grains of squill pill, and five of the compound extract of colocynth each night;—keep from cold. Write in a month.

Has D. G. S. received an answer? If not, let him write.

Has W. H. of Cheltenham received a letter?

Has James Coates received a letter?

J. B. who is "going into Devonshire," has omitted to state his complaint.

We thank the Secretary of the London Chemical Society, and will avail ourselves of his kindness.

AN ORPHAN.—Put a warm plaster on the breast, and keep it on. Let him keep from cold, and take a little rhubarb, (five grains) every day.

J. H. is informed, that peculiar circumstances obliged the Proprietors to do as *he regrets*. It was the advice of friends, who feared (although unjustly) the trouble of the law. Cannot J. H. understand?—CAN'T HE SEE THROUGH IT?

GEORGE is received.

A LADY must use the cold bath.

OPERATOR must take the prescriptions for training, page 338, MEDICAL ADVISER.

W. W—m—l next week.

MARY.—Nothing can be better than milk in her diet.

Some Correspondents must stand over.

All private letters up to yesterday were answered.

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AND

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MARIE OF GENEVA.

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VOL. II.



## MARIE OF GENEVA.

(Plate.)

There is a young woman who lives on the lake of Geneva, well known to the traveller in that country. She possesses the most clear idea of the principles of the healing art, and merely *assists* nature. She is only 27 years of age. Her cottage, which the present plate represents, is visited by crowds of sick peasants, yet she will accept no remuneration.

## VOIDING BLOOD BY URINE.

THIS disease is sometimes occasioned by falls, blows, bruises, or some violent exertion, such as hard sliding or jumping; but it often arises from a small stone lodged either in the kidney or the tubes which run from the kidney into the bladder; which stone, by its size or irregularity, wounds the inner surface of the part it comes in contact with; in which case the blood discharged, is most usually somewhat coagulated, and deposits a sediment of a dark brown colour, resembling the grounds of coffee.

A discharge of blood by urine, when proceeding from the kidneys, is commonly attended with acute pain, a sense of weight in the back, and some difficulty of passing water; the urine which comes being first muddy and high coloured; but towards the close of its flowing becomes transparent and of a natural appearance. When the blood proceeds immediately from the bladder, it is usually accompanied with a sense of heat and pain at the bottom of the belly.

It is distinguished from high coloured urine, attendant on many diseases, by the deposit of a coagulum at the bottom of the vessel, and by staining linen of a red colour.

The voiding of bloody urine is always attended with some danger, particularly when mixed with purulent matter. When it arises in the course of any malignant disease, it shews a putrid state of the blood, and always indicates a fatal termination.

If the disease has arisen in consequence of some external injury, such as a blow or fall, or the patient is of a full plethoric habit of body, it may then be proper to bleed, giving him a

couple of table-spoons-full of an *acidulated infusion of roses*, with a small quantity of nitre dissolved in it, every two or three hours, and also a gentle laxative of senna and manna, or castor oil, and repeat it every second or third day.

If the discharge of blood should continue after these steps are taken, we may administer ten drops of laudanum twice or thrice a day, and also half a drachm of the *uva ursi*, in powder, three times a day, the patient taking for drink the double acidulated soda water.

If the disease arise from stone, a surgeon must be the relief; but in all cases, drinking linseed tea, thick barley water, and other mucilaginous drinks, acidulated with lemon juice, will be proper.

A case is recorded in the eighth volume of the Medical Facts and Observations, which had resisted repeated bleedings, warm bathing, &c. &c. and which was quickly and effectually removed by giving the patient daily, a pint of the decoction of peach-leaves. This decoction is prepared by boiling an ounce of dried leaves of the peach-tree, in a quart of water, till it is reduced to a pint and a half.

## A MOST UNCOMMON EXTINCTION OF VOICE.

M. LEMERY, the father, informs us, that a young woman, about twenty-two years old, and of a good constitution, after an ague was seized with an extinction of voice, which in spite of all means employed for her relief, continued a year and a half; nothing in all that time could recover her voice, except the *semicupium*; and even in this, she was hoarse; but in the hot fit of the ague, she could speak. M. Lemery, who had been only consulted about her, ordered such things only as were proper to remove some other complaints she had, but which had no connexion with her extinction of voice; he happened however, by mere chance, to recommend a tea of the *vulnery plants of Switzerland*;<sup>\*</sup> the

<sup>\*</sup> Periwinkle, golden rod, bear's-foot, john's-wort, bugle, male-speedwell, lady's mantle,



patient had no sooner taken of this tea than, to the great surprise of both herself and those about her, she recovered her voice, and held it for an hour; by continuing the same tea, she so far recovered her voice, as only to lose it towards the evening, especially if she happened to expose herself to the night-air; but even then she is quit by taking a cup of her tea, either cold or warm. Some were of opinion, that she owed this recovery of her voice to the warm water only; but the patient had often before tried warm water to no purpose. All infusions of plants abounding with acids, even coffee, chocolate, salad, raw fruit, soup [maigre, fish, long abstinence, took away her voice; flesh meat, on the contrary, wine or milk had not the same effect: wherever she went, she always carried her tea in a bottle in her pocket, whereupon she pleasantly told every body she carried her voice in her pocket.

M. Lemery being consulted the year following in a like case, ordered the same tea to two or three women, who received benefit from it; he at the same time confesses, the same tea did not succeed so well with others. Time and further experience must determine the circumstances where this tea can, or cannot relieve.

M. Lemery the son, was consulted for an extraordinary extinction of voice in a young woman about twenty-four years old; this young woman since she was sixteen had this extinction of voice; it seizes her at the time of the menses, and holds her for two or three days; during that time she drinks a ptisane, made of red poppies to soften her chest, which then greatly wants it. This ptisane, however, avails nothing as to her extinction of voice; for it continues till her menses cease, and then her voice returns of itself. Some time after this, she happened to break her arm; this

accident and the grief she had taken, threw her into violent hysterics; a total suppression of her menses ensued, which by the help of many bleedings both in the foot and arm, vomits and several other things, were recalled; but the consequence was, that she had a continual extinction of voice, in so much, that one could scarcely hear her, though he had put his ear to her mouth; when she spoke ever so little, she was so fatigued, as to be obliged to leave off speaking; she also complained of a great weight at her stomach, and upon the least motion was near suffocation; all this time she had her menses regularly; however, the above complaints were then greatly aggravated; she seemed in every thing else in very good health; her countenance was florid; her appetite was good; she performed all her other functions well enough; she however, remained in this condition upwards of three months, notwithstanding all that could be done for her. At last M. Lemery recollected that his father had with success recommended the vulnerary plants of Switzerland, in form of tea, in a parallel case; this woman had no sooner taken a cup of this tea, than she recovered her voice, and that as strong as before her illness; her difficulty of breathing, and danger of suffocation on the least motion vanished likewise.

There was this further circumstance attending this sudden cure, that the weight at her stomach sensibly fell in an instant down to her navel, where it remained.

As this young woman changed her lodgings some time after, M. Lemery never saw her after, and of course heard no more about her.

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#### AN UNCOMMON INSTANCE OF CATALEPSIS IN A LADY.

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A LADY about forty-five came to Besançon to solicit a law-suit of the last consequence to her; she went only among her lawyers, or to church, to endeavour to interest heaven in her cause. Here she was

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winter-green, mouse-ear, lesser centory, ground pine; these are dried in the shade, and made up into papers of about sixteen ounces each, and sold in most towns on the continent.



observed to prostrate herself before every altar. She ate little, and slept less; though she had been told that the court seemed favourable to her cause, yet the evening before the day of hearing she fell into what was believed to be an apoplexy. The physician and surgeon being called, found her sitting motionless in a chair, with her eyes open and fixed upwards, her arms raised, and hands joined as one in an ecstasy; her countenance, which before was both pale and sorrowful, was now both florid and gay; her breathing was free; her pulse was like that of one asleep, full and slow; her limbs were supple, and would move, as one would have them, without offering any resistance, and would remain in what posture they were left in; when her chin was pulled down, her mouth remained open; when her arms were raised, they remained so; and let them be put into the most uneasy posture one could think of, they always remained in the situation they were put into. She all this time seemed insensible; they tormented her several ways, put live coals to her feet, bawled into her ears that she gained her cause; she gave no signs of life. Messrs. Attalin and Charles, both professors of physic, had her bled in the foot, and when they came to visit her after supper, they found her recovered out of her cataleptic fit, which had held her three or four hours. She here entertained them with all the circumstances of her law-suit, interspersed with such moral reflections as naturally arose from her story. Those present did every thing to assure her she would gain her cause. She was asked whether she had any notion of what had happened unto her; she said she had seen nothing, but could distinguish the voice of some about her, yet she never felt the chafing-dish of coals under her feet, nor the bleeding in the foot; though she had been tormented all manner of ways, yet she never complained of any pain or lassitude. While she thus entertained the company, she was observed to interrupt her discourse, to draw a deep sigh, and then her

eyes became fixed; every thing was done to prevent those little fits, by reminding her where she left off; but she never could recover the thread of her discourse, but would begin some other story. In about an hour after, she fell into another cataleptic fit, which was as strong as the first. After it was over, she, sitting in her chair, talked of her affairs as before, for an hour and a half, and after this she began to speak wildly; she likewise screamed frightfully, and was soon after seized with a violent fever. She was treated by the above physicians for three or four days. She still remained at Besançon, but without any visible relief; whereupon they advised to have her carried back to Vesoul, her native place, where, to the surprise of every body, she perfectly recovered.

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*A similar Case, still more extraordinary.*

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A SERVANT maid at Montpellier, about twenty, of a pale complexion, and ever complaining of cold in her extremities, of a timorous, though fretful disposition, after some grief she took in March, was seized with a cataleptic fit; whatever attitude she was in at the time of seizure, she retained it till the fit was over. These fits increasing obliged her to be carried into the hospital, where she was attended by Messrs. Sauvage and Lazerme; these fits were various as to their duration, being from half a quarter to three quarters of an hour; in the months of April and May, 1737; this catalepsy was accompanied with very extraordinary appearances, distinguishable into three visible periods, the beginning and ending cataleptic, the middle lasted a whole day, or from morning till night; when her cataleptic fit, which often used to hold her five or six minutes, was over, as was always known by her beginning to yawn, she then sat up in her bed, began to talk very fast, and more sensibly than she was known to do in her full health; she would now often change her discourse, and that pertinently enough, and appear as if she directed



her discourse to some friends present; this was always observed to have some connection with that she held in a fit the day before, or it turned on some moral reflection, which she shrewdly would apply to some of the attendants of the hospital. All this time her eyes were fully open, and yet she was in a most profound sleep, without either motion or feeling, as M. Sauvage confirmed by many experiments he made. First, By approaching the flame of a bougie so near her eye as to burn her eyebrows; she however did not even wink at this. Secondly, he got one to bawl loud into her ear, thump hard at the head of the bed, which at any other time would have terrified her; he besides had some brandy and even spirit of sal-ammoniac put into her eyes; he also thrust his finger into them, had Havannah snuff blown into her nose, pins thrust into her flesh, and her fingers twisted, yet all to no purpose; she never gave the least sign of feeling.

While these experiments were making, her discourse (for she all the time continued talking) all of a sudden became more lively; this was a prelude to a new scene: she now began to sing and jump, and burst out into a fit of laughter, endeavouring at the same time to get out of bed, which she at last effected with seemingly great joy. She now ranged the whole ward, carefully avoiding the beds, chairs, &c., and returned without any difficulty to her own bed, lay down after, and covered herself, where in a short time she was seized with a cataleptic fit, which in less than one quarter of an hour left her; she then awoke as out of a profound sleep. Upon her seeing so many about her, she appeared confused, and cried for the remainder of the day, though she had no knowledge of what she did in her fit.

About the end of May, all the foregoing symptoms left her, though it could not be attributed to any effect from medicines. She was bled once in the arm, often in the foot, and seven times in the jugulars; she was purged five or

six times, after some aperitive apozems she took: she took a stomachic electuary, made of the bark and cinnabar; and when the weather was mild, she was bathed twenty times in a bath rather cold than warm. She had after some preparations of mercury ordered for her,—was seemingly restored to her health, but she was far from being so, having returns of her disorder every winter, with this difference, that it was not now preceded by a cataleptic fit, nor was her want of feeling so great. She was one day seized with a fit on the bridge, where she was observed to speak, as to her own shadow or image she saw in the water.

This young woman is now so accustomed to her disorder, that all the concern it gives her, is some little confusion; however, she is not of so pale a complexion, but she still feels the same heat and weight on her head, and on the decline of the fit, complains of a cardialgia, which awakes her.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

(Continued from page 164.)

### SPITTING BLOOD.

**HIP.** If blood spit forth be frothy, it comes from the lungs.

**COOK.** It is also in great plenty and without pain: it is not to be froth mixed with the blood, but it must be nothing but froth which comes from the substance of the lungs, which are only congealed froth.

**HIP.** Vomiting blood without a fever is healthful, but if with it, it is ill; it behoves you to cure it with coolers and astringents.

**COOK.** All vomiting blood is bad, and therefore, although it be without a fever; yet it is tolerable.

### CONSUMPTIONS.

**HIP.** After vomiting blood, and phthisis, and purging, filthy purulent matter doth ensue. If in a consumption the hair fall, and a diarrhoea follow, they die.

**COOK.** It shews the phthisis in-



veterate, and weakness of the whole frame of nature.

HIP. If his spittle which hath a phthisis, being cast upon the coals, do stink, and the hair fall of the head, it is deadly.

COOK. It signifies the mortification of the part, and the faculties near spent.

HIP. A flux following a phthisis, is deadly.

COOK. So that an inveterate phthisis, a diarrhoea is sufficient to bring to death.

HIP. If in a phthisis there be spitting of matter and afflux, and the spittle cease, it is deadly.

COOK. If the spitting be stopped, the lungs are oppressed with abundance of phlegm, which from debility strangles the patient.

#### OF THE HEART.

HIP. They die suddenly, which oft and vehemently swoon and faint without manifest cause.

COOK. Because a great swooning quite takes away the strength of the heart; and doubtless that, which cannot be recovered out of by casting rose-water in the face, giving wine to drink, and by provoking sneezing, is deadly.

#### OF THE LIVER.

HIP. The stranguary doth happen by the inflammation of the strait gut; as also of the womb, or if the kidneys be ulcerated; but if the liver be inflamed, the hiccough succeeds.

COOK. The stranguary happens from the vicinity of the parts; the hiccough, the stomach being oppressed by the liver, and from the bilious humour thence flowing.

HIP. An hiccough from the inflammation of the liver, is ill.

COOK. For the increase of the inflammation, and its malignity, disturbs the stomach by consent.

HIP. If in pain of the liver a fever follows, it removes the pain.

COOK. It must be from windy vapours, and feverless; and then, a fever discussing the wind, it ceaseth.

HIP. If pure white matter flow from those whose liver is corrupted

and burnt, they recover health, for then the corrupt matter is contained in the coats; but if that which cometh forth be like the lees of oil, they die.

COOK. Because the fleshy substance of the liver is corrupted; in the other the substance doth not suffer.

HIP. They which have much water about the liver, if it get into the caul, their belly is filled with water, and they die.

COOK. Because it flows from the branches of the porta into the caul and so it gets into the belly, the veins being either rarefied, or their mouths opened; hence nature is over-burdened with the disease.

#### OF THE SPLEEN.

HIP. A dysentery happening to splenetics, is good.

COOK. It must not stay long; if it do, it is ill.

HIP. Those splenetic persons who have a dysentery, if it remain long, there follows a dropsy, or lenteria, and so they die.

COOK. He means those whose spleens are indurated from melancholy, there follows a dropsy, the liver by the dysentery being cold and weakened; and a lenteria having weakened the intestines, a lenteria from a dysentery is bad.

#### THE JAUNDICE.

HIP. If a scirrhus of the liver follow a jaundice, or is cause thereof, it is ill.

COOK. Because it commonly ends in a dropsy; as an inflammation into a scirrhus; the first is with, the latter without, a fever.

HIP. Those that have the yellow-jaundice upon fevers before the seventh day, it is ill.

COOK. Hippocrates crosseth himself in this; for, saith he, in a bilious fever, if the jaundice come before the seventh day with chillness, the disease is cured, but, if without chillness, it is deadly: the reason is, because a critical jaundice may come upon the third, fourth, and fifth day: therefore it seems by the seventh, he means any critical day,



but names the seventh as most noble.

HIP. If the jaundice fall out in fevers the seventh, eleventh, or fourteenth days, it is good, unless there be hardness on the right side; if otherwise, it is ill.

COOK. Here he means of a continual fever, before of intermitting; if the right side be hard, it shews the inflammation of the liver.

HIP. Those that are diseased with the jaundice, are not much troubled with windiness.

COOK. It is to be understood of a proper jaundice, not symptomatic; but when a natural habited bile is diffused through the whole body.

#### DROPSY.

HIP. Whosoever hath a griping about the navel, and cruel affects of the loins, which is not discussed neither by purging nor otherwise, he will fall into a tympany.

COOK. He shews that the cure of all diseases doth not consist in purging, but by other means; as fomentations, washings, frictions, emplasters, cataplasms. The gripings are specially from wind in the small guts. After a leucophlegmatia comes a dropsy. Namely, when the body and its vessels are abundantly filled with phlegm, and thereby the body be lifted up into a soft tumour; for the solid parts of the liver being cooled, abundance of phlegm is begot, hence the body is brought into whiteness: when this is, then purge and strengthen, lest an ascites be begot.

HIP. Those whose hypochondres are lifted up, having a murmuring sound, with pain in the loins, will have a looseness, unless flatulency breaks forth with a great quantity of urine; but this is only in fevers.

COOK. When the sides swell and make a noise, it is a sign that the humour and wind abound in that part; to which if pain in the loins succeeds, the humour and wind creep downward, which causes a looseness, or at least farting, unless the humour be voided by urine.

HIP. Ulcers or sores in dropsy bodies, are not easily cured.

COOK. Because the ulcers call for drying, but such bodies are always moist; besides the blood being bad, cannot heat.

HIP. If in a leucophlegmatia a strong diarrhœa follow, the disease is cured.

COOK. The diarrhœa must be in the beginning, or at least before the disease be old, or the strength of the part weakened; if it happen in weak, it is bad.

HIP. In hydropics, if the water flow by the veins into the belly, it dissolves the disease.

COOK. That is, through the belly, but it must be in the beginning, &c. as before. Besides, it instructs us to imitate nature, and therefore to purge.

HIP. Those, in whom much phlegm is contained between the midriff and the stomach, having no way to the belly, is soon dissolved, if it issue by the veins to the bladder, and so forth by urine.

COOK. It is known by a long pain about the midriff; it is contained betwixt the peritonæum and the caul, under the midriff. The use of the aphorism is to observe, what way nature inclines to cast out the diseased matter, and help it.

HIP. If any have had the hemorrhoids long, and would stay them, unless one be left open flowing, it draws on a dropsy, or phthisis.

COOK. Otherways, the matter may reflux to the liver, and thence there may be procured a scirrhus, and oppression of its native heat, and so the blood be turned into water; or else return to the lungs and break the vessels, and hence a phthisis. It may fall back to other parts also, as to the head, and procure madness; to the habit of the body, and cause phagedæna.

#### OF THE STOMACH.

HIP. In a continual disease, loathing, and sincere dejections are ill.

COOK. Loathing is an ill sign in long diseases; for they that are like



to escape have the contrary: but sincere dejections are worse, by which understand such as have no humours mixed with them, *i. e.* when the humour alone without any water is cast forth, whether bile, or melancholy; for these stools shew that all the native humidity is burnt by the feverish heat.

#### OF THIRST.

HIP. Whosoever desires to drink at night, it is good to fall asleep when they are very thirsty.

HIP. Sleep doth mitigate thirst, the blood and moisture being thereby called in, whence the vapours stirring up, the thirst is overcome.

#### OF LIENTERY, DIARRHŒA, &c.

HIP. In long lenteries, if sharp belching follow, which was not before, it is good.

COOK. Because that sour belching arising, which was not before, is a sign that the fermentation which was lost by the disease begins to return.

HIP. If a diarrhœa comes from the brain, the stools are frothy.

COOK. This is not always so, for phlegm may flow from the brain without wind, which is the only cause of froth; as also wind may be mixed with the humours that are bred and contained in the stomach, or guts, from whence the excrements may be frothy though they come not from the head; therefore other signs are to be adjoined; as a catarrh, deafness, lethargy, apoplexy, or great heaviness or sleepiness, and if the flux be more by night than by day.

HIP. A vomiting naturally, after a long flux of the belly, cures the disease.

COOK. For there is a revulsion of the matter to the contrary part; and this shews nature is refreshed, and gains strength.

ED. These aphorisms are good. Cook, as usual, is like the busy man who shews a picture, and says, "this is a house,—that is a tree."

#### *Deleterious effects of keeping Water in Leaden Reservoirs.*

THE deleterious effect of lead, when taken into the stomach, is at present so universally known, that it is quite unnecessary to adduce any argument in proof of its dangerous tendency.

The ancients were, upwards of two thousand years ago, as well aware of the pernicious quality of this metal as we are at the present day; and indeed they appeared to have been much more apprehensive of its effects, and scrupulous in the application of it to purposes of domestic economy.

Their precautions may have been occasionally carried to an unnecessary length. This was the natural consequence of the imperfect state of experimental knowledge at that period. When men were unable to detect the poisonous matters—to be over scrupulous in the use of such water, was an error on the right side.

The moderns, on the other hand, in part, perhaps, from an ill-founded confidence, and inattention to a careful and continued examination of its effects, have fallen into an opposite error.

There can be no doubt that the mode of preserving water intended for food or drink in leaden reservoirs, is exceedingly improper; and although pure water exercises no sensible action upon metallic lead, provided air be excluded, the metal is certainly acted on by the water when air is admitted: this effect is so obvious, that it cannot escape the notice of the least attentive observer.

The white line which may be seen at the surface of the water preserved in leaden cisterns where the metal touches the water, and where the air is admitted, is a carbonate of lead, formed at the expense of the metal. This substance, when taken into the stomach is highly deleterious to health. This was the reason which induced the ancients to condemn leaden pipes for the conveyance of water; it having been remarked that persons



who swallowed the sediment of such water, became affected with disorders of the bowels.

Different portable waters have unequal solvent powers on this metal. In some places the use of leaden pumps has been discontinued, from the expense entailed upon the proprietors by the constant want of repair. Dr. Lamb states an instance where the proprietor of a well ordered his plumber to make the lead of a pump of double the thickness of the metal usually employed for pumps, to save the charge of repairs; because he had observed that the water was so hard, as he called it, that it corroded the lead very soon.

The following instance is related by Sir George Baker.

“A gentleman was the father of a numerous offspring, having had one-and-twenty children, of whom eight died young, and thirteen survived their parents. During their infancy, and indeed until they had quitted the place of their usual residence, they were all remarkably unhealthy; being particularly subject to disorders of the stomach and bowels. The father, during many years, was paralytic; the mother, for a long time, was subject to cholics and bilious obstructions.

“After the death of the parents, the family sold the house which they had so long inhabited. The purchaser found it necessary to repair the pump. This was made of lead; which, upon examination, was found to be so corroded, that several perforations were observed in the cylinder in which the bucket plays; and the cistern in the upper part was reduced to the thinness of common brown paper, and was full of holes, like a sieve.”

I have myself seen numerous instances where leaden cisterns have been completely corroded by the action of water with which they were in contact; and there is, perhaps, not a plumber who cannot give testimony of having experienced numerous similar instances in the practices of his trade.

I have been frequently called upon to examine leaden cisterns,

which had become leaky on account of the action of the water which they contained; and I could adduce an instance of a legal controversy having taken place to settle the disputes between the proprietors of an estate and a plumber, originating from a similar cause—the plumber being accused of having furnished a faulty reservoir; whereas the case was proved to be owing to the chemical action of the water on the lead. Water containing a large quantity of common air and carbonic acid gas, always acts very sensibly on metallic lead.

Water, which has no sensible action, in its natural state, upon lead, may acquire the capability of acting on it by heterogeneous matter, which it may accidentally receive. Numerous instances have shewn that vegetable matter, such as leaves falling into leaden cisterns filled with water, imparted to the water a considerable solvent power of action on the lead, which in its natural state it did not possess. Hence the necessity of keeping leaden cisterns clean; and this is the more necessary, as their situations expose them to accidental impurities. The noted saturnine cholic of Amsterdam, described by Tronchen, originated from such a circumstance; as also the case related by Van Swieten, of a whole family afflicted with the same complaint, from such a cistern. And it is highly probable that the case of disease recorded by Dr. Duncan, proceeded more from some foulness in the cistern, than from the solvent power of the water. In this instance the officers of the packet boat used water for their drink and cooking out of a leaden cistern, whilst the sailors used the water taken from the same source, except that theirs was kept in wooden vessels. The consequence was, that all the officers were seized with the cholic, and all the men continued healthy.

“The carelessness of the bulk of mankind,” Dr. Lamb very justly observes, to these things, “is so great, that to repeat them again and again cannot be wholly useless.”



Although the great majority of persons who daily use water kept in leaden cisterns receive no sensible injury, yet the apparent salubrity must be ascribed to the great slowness of its operation, and the minuteness of the dose taken, the effects of which become modified by different causes and different constitutions, and according to the predispositions to diseases inherent in different individuals. The supposed security of the multitude who use the water with impunity, amounts to no more than presumption, in favour of any individual, which may or may not be confirmed by experience.

Independent of the morbid susceptibility of impressions which distinguish certain habits, there is, besides, much variety in the original constitution of the human frame, of which we are totally ignorant.

The susceptibility or proneness to disease of each individual, must be esteemed peculiar to himself. Confiding to the experience of others is a ground of security which may prove fallacious; and the danger can with certainty be obviated only by avoiding its source. And considering the various and complicated changes of the human frame, under different circumstances and at different ages, it is neither impossible nor improbable that the substances taken into the system at one period, and even for a series of years, with apparent impunity, may, notwithstanding, at another period, be eventually the occasion of disease and of death.

The experience of a single person, or of many persons, however numerous, is quite incompetent to the decision of a question of this nature.

The pernicious effects of an intemperate use of spirituous liquors is not less certain, because we often see habitual drunkards enjoy a good state of health, and arrive at old age: and the same may be said of individuals who indulge in vices of all kinds, evidently destructive to life, many of whom, in spite of

their bad habits, attain to a vigorous old age.

In confirmation of these remarks, we adduce the following account of the effect of water contaminated by lead, given by Sir G. Baker:

“The most remarkable case on the subject that now occurs to my memory, is that of Lord Ashburnham’s family, in Sussex; to which spring water was applied, from a considerable distance, in leaden pipes. In consequence, his Lordship’s servants were every year tormented with cholic, and some of them died. An eminent physician, of Battle, who corresponded with me on the subject, sent up some gallons of that water, which were analyzed by Dr. Higgins, who reported that the water had contained more than the common quantity of carbonic acid; and that he found in it lead in solution, which he attributed to the carbonic acid.—In consequence of this, Lord Ashburnham substituted wooden for leaden pipes; and from that time his family have had no particular complaints in their bowels.”

#### METHOD OF DETECTING LEAD IN WATER.

ONE of the most delicate tests for detecting lead, is water impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, which instantly imparts to the fluid containing the minutest quantity of lead, a brown or blackish tinge.

This test is so delicate that distilled water, when condensed by a leaden pipe in a still tub, is effected by it. To show the action of this test, the following experiments will serve.

#### EXPERIMENT.

Pour into a wine-glass containing distilled water, an equal quantity of water impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen gas, no change will take place; but if a quarter of a grain of acetate of lead (sugar of lead of commerce,) be added, the mixture will instantly turn brown and dark coloured.

To apply this test, one part of the suspected water need merely to



be mingled with a like quantity of water impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen. Or better, a larger quantity, a gallon for example, of the water may be concentrated by evaporation to about half a pint, and then submitted to the action of the test.

*Adulteration of Magnesia, and Method of detecting it.*

MAGNESIA usually contains a portion of lime, originating from hard water being used instead of soft, in the preparation of this medicine.

To ascertain the purity of magnesia, add to a portion of it a little sulphuric acid, diluted with ten times its bulk of water. If the magnesia be completely soluble, and the solution remains transparent, it may be pronounced *pure*; but not otherwise. Or, dissolve a portion of the magnesia in muriatic acid, and add a solution of sub-carbonate of ammonia. If any lime be present, it will form a precipitate; whereas pure magnesia will remain in solution.

*Adulteration of Calcined Magnesia, and Method of detecting it.*

CALCINED magnesia is seldom met with in a pure state. It may be assayed by the same tests as the common magnesia. It ought not to effervesce at all, with dilute sulphuric acid; and if the magnesia and acid be put together into one scale of a balance, no diminution of weight should ensue on mixing them together. Calcined magnesia, however, is very seldom so pure as to be totally dissolved by diluted sulphuric acid; for a small insoluble residue generally remains, consisting chiefly of silicious earth, derived from the alkali employed in the preparation of it. The solution in sulphuric acid, when largely diluted, ought not to afford any precipitation by the addition of oxalate of ammonia.

OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES  
EXAMINED.

*Scraped horse radish to a fresh wound.*

Very wrong.

*Dandelion and camomile tea drank in the morning, to strengthen the stomach and promote appetite.*

A very good thing; but should be left off after a week or two, and resumed in a similar time.

USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A strong purgative, useful in melancholy habits.*

Infusion of senna, an ounce and a half,  
Tartrate of potass, two drachms,  
Tincture of jalap, two drachms,  
Syrup of buckthorn, one drachm.

Mix.—To be taken at once.

*A common Enema.*

Half a pint of warm water, with a little oil and salt.—Good in constipation.

CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

NOTHING is more common than to consider our own situation, as the most lamentable, when contrasted with others; but my case, if it can be judged from the little effect produced by medicine, is of no common description.

About six years since, I was attacked with a spasmodic affection, the consequence of which was total insensibility for a few minutes, the lips quivering, and the muscles of the face contracted; the means used to restore me, was the instantaneous rubbing of the stomach; at night after laying down a very short period an involuntary scream awakened my family, and the same application applied (the wind passing backwards) I was recovered, but at all times unconscious of what had passed.

Aperient medicines were given, but with little effect, the disorder producing a determination of the blood to the head; cupping was resorted to, and some trifling effect



produced, but my frame being very slender, it was considered dangerous often to repeat it; the shower bath was tried but not continued, fever, &c. preventing a repetition of it. I then took the advice of Dr. G. he considered it a disorder connected with the liver and the brain, and prescribed accordingly.

Abernethy's pills have had no success.

A neighbouring apothecary gave me a bitter draught. Infus. gen. cascarilla. tinc. orange peel, &c. which a little quieted the system, and prevented the recurrence of the attacks by day, but the nightly ones as usual, continuing till about five o'clock; latterly, there has been an appearance of somnambulism, as I understand after every spasm, I converse for a few minutes though perfectly insensible, throw my night cap from me complaining my brain is on fire; at other times I answer questions in these unconscious moments quite pertinently.

In November last, I took the advice of Dr. F., and he prescribed ("Pulv. julap. pulv. scammen. ext. rhu mollis. tinc. gen. comp.") ("Soda carbon. aque piment. tinct. columba. syr. cort. acc.")

I occasionally take the pills, which as aperients keep the disorder a little in check, but the convulsive attacks during the night and every other symptom of the disease, remains as before stated.

The above, is the account given by the different persons who sleep in my room, who particularly notice the disorder is increased by wet and windy weather, or when my nerves have been assailed by any unforeseen event, and no medicine has yet been able to counteract them, or prevent the repetition; frequently every half hour during the night, annoying those persons sleeping in the adjoining rooms. (Dr. G.'s decoction of aloes seems the most effectual.) I rise in the morning, after sustaining the attacks, as usual eat a hearty breakfast, and when unattended by fever my appetite is good, but a sleepless night, which sometimes occurs, throws me on a sick bed.

My habits are extremely regular, rising early, and retiring to bed at nine o'clock, tasting spirits and malt liquor very sparingly.

Not subject to any nausea or bilious disorder, varying the time of my meals, refraining from suppers, and sometimes the reverse; but this seems very little to alter the affection, the stomach being loaded, of course, adds to the malady.

I am more conversational than formerly after the spasm has a little subsided, but totally unconscious of what has passed; the effective mode of relief is, if possible, to expel the wind backwards, for that purpose I frequently procure a stomachic draught.—Tinc. gen. cascarilla, orange peel, æther, and peppermint water, with a small quantity of magnesia.

When the nightly paroxysm is unusually severe, my attendant terms it a fit, having an epileptical appearance, as I foam a little at the mouth, and the convulsion is unusually strong; the moment I close my eyes, a night-mare, and constant dreams succeed, and I never feel subdued, or much refreshed by sleep.

In consequence of my exclamations, I am a disturber of my fellow lodgers, frequently alarming them; and find some difficulty in procuring accommodation, being a single man; and could any of your Correspondents give me a salutary hint in this hopeless case, I shall acknowledge it with gratitude,

And remain,

Your obedient, humble servant,  
WM. URBIS, aged 45.  
Holloway,

---

[If this man's mind be not affected with grief, there must be an incapability in the gastric juice to digest, or perhaps a narrowness of the inferior orifice of the stomach. In either case we think that he should take an emetic, then go on with 10 grains of rhubarb daily, and half a pint of port.—Ed.]





## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

THE following contemptible hand-bill does incalculable injury to the lower classes. The fellow who issues it has no more claims to the healing art than he has to divinity; he is a common stupid ass, and of the lowest order of mankind. There is a similar fellow, called Dr. James, living in Welleclose-square, a dreadful evil to poor sailors:—

**“ FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ARMY, NAVY AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL.**

*(What has the Army and Navy to do with him?)*

**“ M. BROWN,**

**“ AT No. 4, ADAM’S PLACE, BOROUGH,**

**“ Four Doors from the Catherine-Wheel Inn,**

**“ Where he may be consulted from 8 in the Morning till 9 in the Evening, and on Sunday from 8 till 2.**

Dr. B. flatters himself, from twenty years’ experience in the navy, that no person can cure, sooner or more effectually, the Venereal Disease, Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Seminal Weaknesses, and all diseases incident to the urinary organs, let the complaints be ever so deeply rooted, or of long standing, without confining the patients, or having occasion to change their mode of living.—Scrofula and Rheumatism cured.

“ He also begs leave to acquaint those who are troubled with severe and dangerous strictures, that he has found out an incomparable mollifying composition for bougies, which had cured numbers when every other means had failed, without the use of the bougie.

“ N. B. The greatest secrecy will be observed.”

We expect some curious information respecting Lang the water-caster, or rather water *taster*. If our Correspondents can lend him “*a lift*,” we would thank them.

**“ DOCTOR” SOLOMON.**

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser,*  
SIR,

I AM credibly informed that Solomon the quack, (before he assumed the M. D.) was a poor ragged lad, who hawked rollers for perukes, (six pair for two pence) and pomatum (one penny a ball) about the streets of Birmingham. After he had established himself in his roguery, he went to a place in its

vicinity called Hochley Abbey; subsequently he went to Liverpool, where he carried on his business very successfully, and built “Gilead House” with *his blood money*.

Your’s, E. R.

## CORRESPONDENT’S LETTER.

MR. ZEBEDEE DUNKIN.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

THE trite adage—“Two of a trade can never agree,” is in a measure verified in the dispute between “Tom Trueman” and Mr. Dunkin, which



has occupied a place in your Journal for some weeks past, under the distinguishing title of "Annals of Quackery." It is amusing, Mr. Editor, to observe with what pretended zeal for the public good, this *soi disant* Tom Trueman drags his brother apothecary and chemist into notice; with what anxious solicitude he invokes, through the medium of your Journal, the public feeling against him: with what toil and brain-racking assiduity he attempts to crush a brother dealer in "*pills and potions*."

I have been at a loss to imagine, what could excite Tommy to commence so laudable an attack; and have used endeavours to discover, but not with much success. Some think a spirit of rivalry; some, a natural quarrelsome disposition; some, the rancorous feelings of disappointed hopes; some, habitual inquietude of mind; some, a desire for notoriety; some, malice and envy, seeing his rival is gaining such strong hold on the public estimation. For myself I am not disposed to favour either of these various opinions, individually; yet, taking them in the aggregate, and combining therewith a considerable portion of that species of *delectable mania*, known by the appellation of "*cacoethes scribendi*," I think I shall have arrived at the true cause. Be it, however, what it may, these accomplishments are very worthy of, and do honour to the possessor. Such amiable qualities call forth the most unqualified praise from every liberal and well-disposed mind. In taking a view of Tommy's scribbling propensities, just alluded to, one cannot help admiring his talents in that way, and his strong discriminating powers in mistaking the expressions of Veritas' letter for a challenge; and I am therefore released from my surprise to find his ideas running upon chivalry, "*trusty squires*," "*tented fields*," and the "*Son of Mars*." What has Tommy been reading lately? Don Quixote, or the Heathen Mythology? doubtless both. One would laugh to see this "*trusty squire*" of his, like a modern Sancho, strutting into the "*tented field*" to protect his less

valiant master from the horrors of a personal conflict.

But Sir, joking apart—let us look to the merits of the institution which has mortified this Mr. Trueman, alias Falseman, to such a degree. This vilifier of honest reputation, this saint in appearance, with truth in one hand and a lie in the other—this supporter of the Puritans, in his own name, but ridiculer of them "by a sort of side wind," to use his own language; who, under the specious pretext of putting down those pests of society, quacks, has attempted to throw odium upon a benevolent institution, and its indefatigable superintendent. Is this consistent with the feelings of charity? is this manly? is it honourable? calm reason revolts at the bare suggestion that it is. I contend this institution is no "innovation upon the established routine of medical practice:" if so, all the medical institutions in and about the vicinity of the metropolis, will fall under the presumptuous lash of this pretended suppressor.

In the immediate neighbourhood of this institution the poor are very numerous; but by their scanty means are debarred relief of the local practitioner. It may be said they can obtain it at the hospital, but then the diseases may be of too trifling a nature to entitle them to admittance, and which being often the case, the sufferer can readily obtain it under the sufficient skill of the superintendent of this establishment. Sir, I conceive any attempt, however humble, which is made for the amelioration of the poor, claims the approbation and support of every honest member of society! It will be seen by Mr. Dunkin's letter, that Trueman's—I beg his pardon, Falseman's letter, abounds with inaccurate statements and malignity. He seems to think, that after the passing of the Apothecaries' Act, every one who practised before, are now to be denominated by the opprobrious appellation of Quacks, and that Mr. Dunkin is one of the worst of these Quacks. This will be seen refuted in his plain and candid statement, subscribed with his *true name*. Do not suppose, Mr. Editor, I would for one moment sanction empirical and



ignorant pretenders; far from it. I consider them the greatest pests society is troubled with, and I applaud your exertions in "shewing them up," as you emphatically term it; but rely upon it, you are grossly deceived in the present instance. It is an act of injustice to call Mr. Dunkin a quack, and can only reflect disgrace on the man who would do it. I think the purity of his motives, which your splenetic informant seems to doubt, "are proved by *irrefragable* evidence"—when I state that ever since the establishment of this institution, he has been very much "out of pocket." Touch Trueman in the same way!

Your well-known liberality of principle induces me to trouble you with this letter, well satisfied that you revere the maxim—" *Audi alteram partem!*"

I am Sir,

Your most obedient servant,  
Θεατης.

[Had this letter been signed by the real name of the party who wrote it, the observations therein contained would be more worthy of consideration; but as it is, we must set it down to the pen of Mr. Zebedee Dunkin himself, or one of his personal friends. Our opinion is not altered upon this gentleman's new Medical Charity, in the least, by the assertions of Θεατης. We still think, and always will, that a dispensary or any medical charity which is to have the sole management of disease in its various forms, *should be under the immediate direction of a regularly educated Physician and Surgeon.* Now Mr. Zebedee Dunkin is, we are informed, neither one nor the other. He is an apothecary, and that only by being tolerated by having practised before the Apothecaries' Act was passed. If Mr. Dunkin can prove that he is a physician or surgeon, then he will have thrown his opponent, Mr. Trueman, into contempt; but if he cannot, that gentleman's attack must be considered just.]—ED.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Sir Astley Cooper's drop of Croton.*—THE man who swallowed the penny piece, has been advised by Sir Astley Cooper, to take *one drop of the oil of croton!*—(*Prodigious!—One drop of the oil of Croton!*) For what purpose, we would ask Sir Astley? He also recommends *forceps*. Why did he not recommend forceps for Dempster, who swallowed the knife? then they would have been of use. We would ask Sir Astley another question:—Who put him in mind of *forceps* at all? Who ever thought of such an application till we published a plate of the invention in the Medical Adviser; and had our suggestions been attended to, would have saved Dempster's life.

*Bungling at Guy's Hospital.*—The surgeons of Guy's Hospital have failed in introducing water into the veins in a case of hydrophobia, an operation which Magendi did, and which any surgeon ought to do in a moment. They also failed in selecting the time of performing the operation, for the poor fellow died during its process. Dr. Blundel too, if he did nothing else, *he blew upon the poor fellow's face, and put into excessive torture*, in order to shew the surrounding admirants, that it was a case of hydrophobia, *which they all had known before.* If Eady or Jordan had blown upon the face of such a case (*whew presto*) we should not be surprised. It is absurd in a regular physician, for it can answer no purpose but to torture the sufferer, and make the bystanders stare.

*Hint for the Old Bailey.*—We humanely wish to turn the attention of the Old Bailey Court, to the necessity of providing some slight refreshment and a chair, for certain cases, which any medical man would, if consulted, say re-



quired it. One of those occurred a few days ago; the purser of the Royal Navy, who was tried and acquitted. The poor man **STOOD** *eight hours* in the dock, and without any refreshment whatever. We saw him as he returned, and declare that a more exhausted human frame scarcely ever tottered along the earth. He was apparently between fifty and sixty, and in ill health. He is an officer, a gentle-

man, and he is *acquitted*; yet he has thus suffered, when a little attention to his peculiar situation, would have much lightened his agony. Thurtell, the most ferocious murderer that England ever produced, was indulged with coffee, toast, and a seat! We do not mean to throw censure upon any one, for this want of necessary accommodation to prisoners, for, doubtless, it is an oversight.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**INDISCREET** must merely take salts every second day, and drink plentifully of linseed tea—this plan for a week.

**W. D. T.** must rest, and take every night a tea-spoonful of treacle and sulphur; fomenting with warm water will assist.

**H. R.**—Treacle and sulphur, every night, is better; and occasionally a dose of castor oil.

**W. WEBB** must blister his breast, and when the blister is healed, put on a warm plaister, which he should wear all the winter; keep from cold, and take once a day, drink of the decoction of Iceland moss, with a little lemon and sugar. He should keep his bowels regular, by rhubarb and magnesia.

**JUNIOR** has come to hand; but old Lamert the quack, is so near his grave, that we think him not worth “a shew up.”

**HASTINGS.**—Take every morning, a table-spoonful of the decoction of bark, acidulated with sulphuric acid, and keep the bowels regular by rhubarb, and occasionally salts.

**F.** whose great toe is swelled, should apply leeches—take a strong dose of physic, and foment the foot in warm water every night, or twice a day.

**A CONSTANT READER**—next week.

**AMICUS.**—Blister the chest, and write again.

**QUERPO**—next week.

**J. S. H.**—It is not the hip-gout. Let him take five grains of blue pill, and five of guaiacum every night, and then write to us.

**T. N.**—next week.

We wrote to Mr. J——n, Chancery-lane, but the letter was returned or “not found.”

**Z. EAU**—next week.

**A VICTIM** to S—f P——n by forwarding to us an address, may have our advice; his nearest post-office will do.

**FROM** the numerous letters we have to attend to, some may occasionally remain unanswered. If any do, now we request them to write again.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 45.]

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[Price 3d.]



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## EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

OUR Plate of this Number represents the taking of a young man from the water, in which his body had lain for an hour and five minutes, yet still contained the vital spark. It occurred on the river Severn, near Bristol, and at the time (now eighteen years ago) was the wonder of the faculty. He was carefully lifted out with his head erect; and by the timely assistance of Dr. Hall and Surgeon Weston, he was, after three-quarters of a hour, restored to life.

In lifting apparently drowned persons from the water, care should be taken not to press upon their chests, and to keep their heads and necks inclined upwards. We shall soon give our remarks on recovering drowned persons.

## HYDROPHOBIA.

SIR,

I BEG to submit a few remarks connected with the *rationale* of the treatment which I have ventured, "in much humility," to recommend to the medical world, in reference to Hydrophobia—a task far more grateful than that into which I have been so wantonly precipitated; and with which, in reference to that individual, I have done for ever.

If I mistake not, a society is now formed for the specific object of "Hydrophobia" alone. This of itself speaks volumes, and proclaims the magnitude and importance of the question, and how hopeless and unavailing is all that has been done before. Mead, in despair, only repeats the language of the Greek physicians respecting it,—“death is the physician that cures.” Bardesley recommends a quarantine for dogs—what Hunter had already done, and confesses how desponding is the complexion of the case, and that any proposed method of cure, having but a reasonable ground of success, is entitled to our attention and gratitude. All—all, “viva

voce,” confess that this terrible malady remains the *opprobrium medicorum*.

When I mentioned “professional pride” in my former communication, it must be understood as referring entirely and exclusively to the “strife of little tongues,” (of which a specimen has already been introduced) because sterling intelligence is ever modest in her deportment—“vaunteth not itself, neither is puffed up;” since the brightest genius that sparkles in the hemisphere of science or of literature but absorbs its rays from a source which is vast and unfathomable: and, comparing not its fires with those that burn around it, but with the sun and source of intelligence, it sees no just cause to assume a consequence foreign to its nature, and so unbecoming man.

As to excision, I by no means meant to question its extreme propriety; on the contrary, where it is practicable I would have it imperative. All that I intended to say was, that even here, by possibility, the very instrument employed might be the messenger of death; and therefore, that nitro-muriatic acid should be applied also. It is notorious, moreover that the locality not unfrequently interdicts this mechanical operation;—such was, unhappily, the case in the instance of the beautiful Mrs. Duff, who was bit in the face by her own lap-dog (owing to a most degrading, reprehensible, and dangerous practice), and whose fascinating and lovely form, in a few days after, fell a prey to all the horrors of hydrophobia. While I unequivocally condemn an indiscriminate attachment to, or imprudent fondling of dogs, I would not be understood to forbid a judicious dependence on the services of this grateful and faithful animal, whom I have ever been taught to respect as a fair and beautiful emblem of affection and fidelity.

—“Dogs are honest creatures,  
Ne’er fawn on that they love not.”

Opinion, which ever “gilds with varying rays the cloud,” must and will present its different aspects as



to the question, whether bleeding, in this case, should be carried to its maximum grade; and, in a field where medical gentlemen themselves are at bay, it would not become me, that am not within the pale of medical practice, (neither mean to be) to presume the disputant. But if the lancet be carried so far, where is the strength left to sustain the attacks of this formidable disease. A physician of considerable eminence in medical literature, it may be added, confessed to me, that apoplexy sometimes supervened the consequence of this inanition, and related several cases of this description. It was to provide against this fatal reaction that I ventured to recommend bleeding freely, yet not so much so as to amount to *deliquium animi*. It is worthy of serious consideration, whether it would not be more prudent to lower the pulse, by administering, at the same time, digitalis or elaterium, or still better, chlorate of potassa.

Dissection appears chiefly valuable in unfolding to our view the localities of inflammation; thus becoming an index to direct the application of the cupping glass, &c. or the sinapism, &c.

It once occurred to me, that galvanism might be serviceable here, but I was checked in my hopes from the consideration, though this power can excite the voluntary muscles, yet that it has over the involuntary fibre no command. The researches of Mr. Charles Bell have unfolded to us new views touching the nerves—namely, that there are two distinct sets distributed to the face, and that these possess different functions, thus enabling us to distinguish between paralysis, as proceeding from the brain, and that partial paralytic affection which is connected with the respiratory nerve of the face. From careful observation of the features of the two dogs under “rabies canina” which fell under my inspection and experiment, I am inclined to think that the latter plexus is that chiefly if not entirely affected. Physicians would do well to note this phenomenon, which may go far in determining the present

question. I would not preclude galvanism altogether, and the “pyrite galvanic pile” is remarkably convenient for such experiments. There can be no doubt, judging from the case of these dogs, that the chylipoetic viscera are in a state of extreme torpor, and the experiments of Dr. Wilson Philip seem to hold out a ray of hope; yet, from the preceding observations, we are certainly not entitled to expect *too much*;—our mind is apt to be bewildered by a creation of specifics. It may not be out of place here to mention, that I once applied the galvanic stimuli in a protracted case of Tetanus proceeding from an accidental laceration of a nerve; and which had produced paralysis of the right side of the face. This application certainly had the power of unlocking the jaw, but the effect was only temporary; and although the person eventually recovered, I cannot think that galvanism had any share in that recovery. The spasms were relieved by a mixture of opium and arsenic.

It is not a little interesting to note the effects of Chlorate of Potassa on the system. Its direct tendency is to lower the pulse, and to chase away, consequently, inflammatory symptoms. But the system, so far from experiencing a corresponding depression or ebb, is rather thereby improved. It determines a mild diuresis, and therefore must prove eminently serviceable where the Salivary Glands are morbidly affected. It acts directly on the system, through the medium of the circulation, and its effect is prompt. In the febrile excitement which precedes cynanche tonsilaris it operates like a charm. Having myself been subject to “sore throat,” I can verify the fact in my own person. Chlorate of potassa was once administered in epilepsy on my recommendation, and it is worthy of remark here, that the blood withdrawn from the patients, some short time afterwards, was remarkably bright and brilliant. These interesting circumstances altogether plead powerfully for its exhibition in hydrophobia. The emphatic expression “in the blood is the life thereof,” may be ultimately found isoteric in its meaning, and not so symbolical or



figurative as a fictitious philosophy, in its sparkling wit, would have us to believe.

With respect to opium, we all know that it has been copiously enough administered in this disease, and all to no purpose—Conjoined with arsenic, it would tend to allay the spasms, but the effect would only be temporary, and perhaps merely local. It is therefore subordinate, and should be so considered, together with calomel, the action of which would be the re-excitement of the resilience of the chylopoetic viscera. Both of these are secondary agents, and merely in co-ordinate relationship, can be expected serviceable. I do own that to persist in recommending subacetate of lead, surprises me not a little. The effect of subacetate of lead would be, to produce paralysis; now in these poor creatures paralysis was already produced, and had it not been so, what a cure would paralysis be!

I would, by all possible means, attend to Dr. Jenner's suggestion. There can be no doubt whatever, from the history of the disease, that the absorbents "that rise into day" at the surface of the skin, are morbidly suspended in their functions. I introduced the oil of the "*croton tiglium*," so violent in its operations, into the mouth of one of these mad dogs, but without any consequence whatever.

On one of the mad dogs (to which I have so often alluded) a variety of experiments were instituted to ascertain the influence of the more active chemical agents. Besides the oil of the "*croton tiglium*," as introduced into the mouth, a variety of cathartics were passed into the system *p. enema*; such as sulphate of magnesia, aloes, &c., and these mixed too with the croton oil. They were perfectly inert. The tincture of iodine thus exhibited, was followed by a paralysis of the lower jaw. Emetine and morphia by the mouth were ineffective. Copious bleeding from the nape of the neck, followed by the application of the actual cautery, &c. produced no better effect; and the animal sunk under the disease, in the usual period, without the least appearance of an alleviation of suffering. This animal was characterised by the "sullen madness."

The other dog, which exhibited the more violent and terrific phenomenon of the "biting madness," shewed a that wildness which is its ever fearful accompaniment. A spar of wood was torn to pieces:—and over this violence, the voice and command of the gamekeeper had no power;—it on the contrary darted on him to the extent of the chain, and tore his coat. Flesh thrown to the animal was rejected. The left eye was blighted, and discharged serum. I need not particularize, for the symptoms in both these cases were precisely such as are described by the author of the article "Dog" in Rees' *Cyclopædia*; and had that author with me watched the progress of the disease, from its commencement to its termination, it could not have found a more faithful portrait. The similitude was complete.

A cup charged with per-oxyde of manganese and muriatic acid was suffered to float in a basin of lukewarm water, so as to impregnate the atmosphere breathed by the dog, with chlorine. The dog became in consequence quite sane; was obedient to the keeper's voice. The paralysis of the eye disappeared;—it took animal food, and lapped milk. These certainly shewed a suspension of the disease, if not a complete triumph, and though the dog did die, let it never be forgotten,—that the period of its fatality was procrastinated by many days, and the event on dissection proved, that death supervened, in all probability, not as the consequence of the disease, but rather as the effect of obstruction in the alimentary canal, from the strange heterogeneous substances swallowed in the incipient stage of the disease, such as chips of wood, stones, nails, &c. &c.

Though I have recommended the bath of nitro-muriatic acid—first introduced by Dr. Scott (in the "*Arts of India*")—I am, however, of opinion, that the better plan by far, would be to expose the body, inclosed in a case, to the action of chlorine gas, as disengaged from a retort containing the ingredients, and the beak of which might enter this vapour bath, An oiled silk, tied round the neck of the patient, would defend the respiratory organs from the more im-



diate effects of the gas, which, when undiluted, is dangerously powerful. The atmosphere of the room may, nevertheless, be slightly charged, as previously recommended, and the sense of feeling must determine the grade of dilution.

The effect of chlorine on the system, or rather atmospheric air very slightly charged with it, is sufficiently remarkable to claim attention. When I have accidentally lacerated my hand, and placed it in chlorine, the wound has been granulated and healed.—I have often experienced its almost magical effects in catarrhal inflammations, and others have been relieved in similar cases in my lecture room. It has also triumphed over asthma of some years standing; and I could easily name the individuals, did that comport with courtesy.—In truth, its action on an inflamed surface, whether of the throat or other membrane, is always decisive. Whether it acts by what has been called “counter irritation” I shall not stop to enquire, nor is it material, since the fact is certain. I am strongly inclined to think that its judicious (and judicious it must needs be) exhibition in the early age of that unsatiate malady that claims, for its terrible triumphs, no less than FIFTY THOUSAND VICTIMS ANNUALLY from the British Isles alone—characterised by

“A wild unwonted brilliancy,

“The lovely, but delusive ray,”

and where the physician cannot fan, by any anodyne, the hopes that flutter in the hectic breast, might be attended with success; and I have powerful grounds from something more than analogy to plead for its trial.

The effect of chlorine on the skin merits notice. Though the ambient atmosphere be 60° F., and the thermometer in the gas indicates no more, the sensation of temperature to the hand in this medium is certainly much above 105° F. !—This shews a specific action on the skin—let the cutaneous membrane be as dry as it may; I have pointed out some facts of this kind at page 100, vol. 60, of the *Philosophical Magazine and Journal*.

It is painful to note the contrariety of opinion on the question of Hydrophobia. Medical gentlemen, gene-

rally, from what I must ever consider loose analogies, have fancied something more than a resemblance between this disease and tetanus. Now tetanus is not hydrophobia, nor hydrophobia tetanus. And because one or more of the symptoms of this last may be among the characteristics of the malady, I see no ground whatever for drawing the analogy too closely. The chief difficulty, in the way of an accurate inference, is that which exists in determining which are the primary and which the secondary affections;—where the disease has its seat and origin, and what phenomena are its consequence and act. Some, therefore, will have it nervous, some another thing. Others will place its seat in the brain—in the spine; others again in the stomach, œsophagus, trachea, lungs, &c. There is still another class that deny altogether, with strange pertinacity, and perversity of reason, the introduction of any specific morbid virus—contending that it is purely IMAGINATIVE! I would venture to recommend a “senatus consultum” on this unhappy question, and since all remedies hitherto tried have proved utterly useless, it should be recommended to vary the plan of treatment, so that, should cases occur within the specific range of the several localities, they may have the high satisfaction of having done “what they could” to free our species from this scourge.

I had almost forgotten to add, that the “*Birmingham Gazette*,” a few weeks ago, in relating a second case of hydrophobia (of course fatal) in that town, expressly adds—“The tongue was examined, but nothing remarkable discovered,” ample verification of the opinion of the medical gentlemen of Paris, already cited.

I should apologize for these altogether hurried remarks. I have no authors with me to consult, and am indebted from first to last to the resources of memory alone. My sincere anxiety has been to do good if possible. My contribution may not be worth much, but it is heartily and honestly imparted. The “*lucidus ordo*” is not to be expected here, and was never attempted. I hope these endeavours to be of service to my fellow



creatures, will be met by a far different feeling than that of the personal scurrility so lately manifested, but which is "itself alone," and rests in my sentiment and feeling, no criterion whatever.

"PRODESSE."

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MURRAY.

Horncastle, Sept. 2d, 1824.

### CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

PULMONARY consumption is accompanied with general emaciation, debility, pain in the side or chest, some degree of dyspnœa after walking or speaking, and a cough, which usually proves most troublesome towards morning. In an advanced stage, purulent expectoration ensues, with hectic fever and diarrhœa.

Pulmonary consumption does not often occur till after the age of puberty, but in some cases it is evidently formed before that period by turbercles arising. Women are more subject to it than men, as well from their going more slightly clad, as from the greater delicacy of their organization.

The causes which predispose to this disease are very numerous; the following are, however, the most general: hereditary disposition; particular formation of the body, obvious by a long neck, prominent shoulders, and narrow chest; scrofulous diathesis, indicated by a fine clear skin, fair hair, delicate rosy complexion, large veins, thick upper lip, a weak voice, and great sensibility: certain diseases, such as catarrh, pneumonic inflammation, hæmoptœ, syphilis, scrofula, small-pox, and measles; particular employments exposing artificers to dust, such as needle pointers, stone cutters, millers, &c. or to the fumes of metals or minerals under a confined and unwholesome air; violent passions, exertions, or affections of the mind, as grief, disappointment, anxiety, or close application to study, without using proper exercise; playing much on wind instruments; frequent and excessive debaucheries, late watching and drinking

freely of strong liquors: great evacuations, as diarrhœa, diabetes, excessive venery, fluor albus, immoderate discharge of the menstrual flux, and the continuing to suckle too long under a debilitated state; and, lastly, the application of cold, either by too quick a change of apparel, keeping on wet clothes, lying in damp beds, or exposing the body too suddenly to cool air, when heated by exercise; in short, by anything that gives a considerable check to the perspiration.

In enumerating the causes of phthisis, a late writer mentions, that moist air is a very frequent one; he supposes it to operate by occasioning general relaxation and debility, and observes, that the frequency of the disease in Holland has been attributed to this cause. It has not, however, been satisfactorily proved that consumption is really frequent among the Dutch. The reverse indeed has been stated; for Dr. Beddoes, in his Essay on Pulmonary Consumption, quotes Dr. Cogan, a physician who practised many years in Holland, as remarking on the infrequency of coughs and colds in that country, in comparison with England; and consumption has been said to be much more rare in the fenny parts of Lincolnshire, than in the high lands in the same county.

The more immediate or occasional causes of consumption of the lungs is pneumonic inflammation proceeding on the suppuration, catarrh, measles, asthma, and tubercles, (which in nineteen cases out of twenty depend on scrofulous habit,) the last of which is by far the most general. The connexion between scrofula and pulmonic consumption is obvious, and generally acknowledged; the latter being often no more than constitutional symptoms ingrafted upon the scrofulous diathesis. At the time when scrofula disappears from the surface of the body, it frequently falls upon the lungs.

Various causes have indeed been assigned for the increasing prevalence at the present time of this distressing disease in the United Kingdom: and among others, the disuse of wood fires, and the general



adoption of mineral coal for fuel, has of itself been thought sufficient by some persons to account for it. But the great and sudden changes of temperature or variableness to which our climate is subject, ought properly to be considered as the real cause of the frequency and prevalence of this disease; and there is great reason to suspect that the warmth and closeness of our apartments, together with the present scanty, light, and flimsy attire of our modish females, very much increase the liability to this complaint. In an economical point of view, as saving an expenditure of fuel, the ingenious contrivances of Count Rumford and others undoubtedly are very efficacious for the purpose; but in the winter, when we leave such apartments to go into the open air, the sudden change of temperature which we experience, often amounts to 25 or 30 degrees; the entrance of the lungs and glottis consequently falls into torpor, from the stream of cold air which is constantly passing between them for the purpose of respiration; and when we re-enter our apartments, the blood rushes with violence into these vessels previously rendered torpid by the cold; and like the pain our hands experience on coming near a fire after being exposed to cold, we feel a sensation of heat about the glands of the throat: this local inflammation spreads, and we experience all the usual symptoms attendant on a recent catarrh.

In noticing the causes of the vast prevalence of consumption of the lungs, I think I may put down the increase of scrofula among us, and we therefore meet with more cases of tubercular consumption than of any other kind. The predisposition to scrofula is inherited by children from their parents, and at some period or other of their life the disease shows itself either in inflammation of some gland that suppurates and breaks externally: or in tubercles in the lungs that proceed to suppuration and ulceration, and terminate in consumption.

That consumptive mortality has very considerably increased in Great Britain within the last century, can-

not be denied; and according to the calculations of a modern writer, the annual victims to consumption in this island are not less than fifty-five thousand persons out of a population of eleven millions.

*[We shall proceed to detail the symptoms, &c. in our next.]*

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### SMALL POX.

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SINCE the year 1708, when the illustrious Dr. Jenner first introduced to the world his invaluable discovery, the Professors have been indefatigable in their exertions to impress the minds of the public with a thorough sense of its utility, and to convince them of the many happy advantages that might accrue from its universal adoption. Thus far, their endeavours have been attended with success, but something further still remains to be done before the extermination of that scourge to society, the small pox, can be effectually accomplished; for while those of our party, have been applying themselves with unremitting ardour to the dispensation of this inestimable blessing to all classes of society, in every quarter of the habitable globe, there are those of an opposite one, who, influenced by the sordid motives of pecuniary interest, have unhesitatingly consented, for a paltry remuneration, to inoculate whole families for the small pox, notwithstanding every argument that science could advance, or reason dictate, against such culpable proceedings, and thus frustrate one of the most laudable designs the philanthropist could suggest in the cause of humanity.

The present year has afforded us numerous, and unquestionable proofs (if indeed proofs were wanting) of the fatality of small pox, and strongly points out the necessity which exists for its speedy abolition. In the vicinity of the Kent Road upwards of a hundred cases have



come under my observation within the last three months, (the origin of which can with little difficulty be clearly traced to a family where a child had been inoculated previous to their coming to reside in the neighbourhood) and these generally of the distinct kind, yet several cases of the worst kind of confluent, have appeared in the low, narrow, and crowded streets; to the latter kind the mortality has been almost exclusively confined; robust healthy children, and particularly those brought immediately from the country, constitute the majority of those who have fallen victims to its destructive ravages.

The re-appearance of so malignant a disease in a district where it had for many years been almost entirely unknown, has been the cause of no small degree of alarm and anxiety in the bosoms of many families, and seemed on many occasions, in consequence of its formidable aspect, and the false alarms of intruding gossips, to excite among credulous individuals unwarranted suspicions of the efficacy of vaccination, and to beget new prejudices in favour of small pox inoculation.

Are we then still to grieve in silence, and observe with unfeigned regret this dreadful pestilence to spread its dire contagion with unrestrained devastation? How humiliating to the pride and disinterested exertions of a Walker, or a Bell, and indeed to every other advocate for the universal adoption of vaccination, to observe their best and most zealous endeavours thwarted by the inflexible obstinacy, and unconquerable aversions of these *persons*, who one would *à priori* consider as the first to accede to any expedient that would infallibly rescue their offspring from the tortures of a disease which they themselves have so cruelly shared; I allude to those who carry the indelible marks of the severity of small pox on their persons and who are sometimes among the first to spurn at vaccination.

Where is the imperative power

of our legislature? Why is its benign influence, so eminently conspicuous on other occasions, so dormant to this great national calamity? Will no public spirited individual display his philanthropic spirit and introduce this subject once more to Parliament? let it be maturely considered, and well and properly discussed, and its final success would always afford a source of pleasing reflection, and secure the blessings of a grateful community to any one who may have been instrumental in forwarding so praise-worthy an undertaking.

Our first and most important step then ought to be, to suppress small pox inoculation in toto, and to substitute vaccination in its stead, to prevent the ingress of foreigners who are, or supposed to be, labouring under small pox contagion;—and to forbid the removal of those already afflicted with it until their complete recovery, or in the event of death, the survivors to remain until the completion of the period of its usual termination; and to enforce obedience to such regulations by attaching to each act of delinquency a reasonable penalty.—But an argument may be advanced, that the minds of the British people, so naturally elate with the idea of “the freedom and liberty of the subject,” would revolt with indignation at such imperious restrictions, and rest their objections on the plea, that parents have an unequivocal right to exercise their own options, and to procure comfort for their children, in a manner that shall not be at variance with their own sentiments; but I repeat that in so serious a national evil, those parental privileges ought to have their limits, remember that our father’s indiscretion might produce the most poignant grief, and heart-rending affliction to himself, to his family, and to a whole neighbourhood; therefore any attempt at amelioration deserves to be most strenuously defended, being persuaded that could many of those fatal prejudices be erased from the public mind, a proportional degree



of happiness would ultimately devolve on our increasing population.

J. T.

September 25th, 1824.

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

### OF THE REINS AND BLADDER.

HIP. Pains in the reins and bladder are hard to cure in such as are old.

COOK. That is from fifty years and upwards; because nature is more cold, the excrements abound, and diseased matter is more contumacious.

HIP. Difficult and painful evacuation of urine is cured with opening a vein, but it must be inward veins.

COOK. As to the basilica in the arm, and malleola in the inside of the foot, one is for derivation, the other for revulsion: it especially serves in the inflammation of the bladder.

HIP. The strangury and dysury, is cured by liberally drinking wine, and bleeding from the inner veins.

ED. This is abominably wrong.

COOK. When these come from viscid and windy matter, then drink, but if from inflammation, then bleed.

HIP. If grumous blood be evacuated and the party have the strangury, and pain happen in the lower belly, viz. the hypogastrium, then it is a sign the parts pertaining to the bladder are diseased.

COOK. Therefore such things are to be used as dissolve blood.

HIP. Whosoever hath a pustule in the urinal passage, if it break, and the matter run, they will be well, for so the urine will have free passage.

COOK. Therefore endeavour to suppurate the pustule, a caruncle there will not be concocted, therefore use other means. See the cure in the marrow.

### OF AND ABOUT THE WOMB.

HIP. A male child for most part lieth on the right side, the female on the left.

COOK. Because the right side of the womb is more hot and solid; being nearer the liver; but this is not always, for in those whose spermatic vessels are from the renalis, and the left from the cava, it is otherwise; yet for all this, much is to be attributed to the ovæ.

HIP. Women's illness coming on immoderately, diseases are ingendered; or being stopt diseases happen from the womb.

COOK. The causes of both which, with the diseases and cure, see in practice.

HIP. If a woman neither great with child, nor having born children, have milk, her courses are stopt.

COOK. There being a conjunction of the veins of the breasts and womb, the passage below stopt, the blood is sent upwards, and there made milk.

HIP. A fume of aromatics moves the courses and lochies, as also many other things, if it did not breed heaviness of the head.

COOK. Because they stir up the expulsive faculty of the womb, and open the obstructions of the veins, yet use them with caution.

HIP. If plenty of milk flow out of the breasts it argues a weak child, but if they be hard and stiff, they shew a strong conception.

COOK. The flowing of milk portends abortion, especially if there be continual pains of the loins stretching as far as the os sacrum; the weakness of the child causes it either to refuse, or not to be able to take its nourishment.

HIP. If the courses keep their time in a woman with child, it is impossible the child should be healthful.

COOK. Especially if thirty-five or forty-five days after conception, for then thereby the child is defrauded of its nourishment.

HIP. In whatsoever women blood is gathered in their breasts, they become frantic.

COOK. The blood being sent from the womb-vessels thither, the vapours and thin blood arising to the brain, cause a phrensy.

HIP. To know whether a woman



have conceived or no, give her hydromel when she goes to bed; if she feel griping in the belly, she hath; otherwise, not.

COOK. There is to be ten parts water and honey: it is not always certain besides, they are not to be subject to the cholic, nor used to the said drink, nor to be hard bound, nor too loose.

ED.—*This is a most mistaken aphorism. Nothing is more absurd than the supposition of proving conception by such means. No internal medium can prove it.*

HIP. Those that are fatter than nature requires, conceive not; neither do they conceive before they wax lean.

HIP. They conceive not that have cold, dense, compact wombs, nor those whose wombs are very moist, nor those whose wombs are hot and dry, for there is want of aliment, and the seed is corrupted; but those whose wombs are temperate, are fruitful.

COOK. You have here the causes of barrenness, and the reason of those causes; and at last the general cause of fruitfulness, the temperate moistness of the womb.

HIP. The same consideration and reasons, are likewise to be had in men; for either, through the spongy substance of the body, the spirits are dissipated and scattered abroad; or else the humour doth not issue forth because of its grossness or thickness; or else because of coldness it doth not grow hot to be collected in its proper place; or by the means of heat, the very same thing may happen.

COOK. This is accounted spurious by Galen, &c.

HIP. If the courses be stopt, and there follow neither shaking, nor fever, but she loath her meat, sure she is with child.

COOK. There is loathing, because the blood is corrupted, and the birth at first conception cannot make use of it. The design of this aphorism, is to caution the too rash purging those that want their courses.

HIP. A woman with child, a vein

being opened, aborteth, the rather if it be of any bigness.

COOK. Because thereby the child wants its nourishment; but yet in acute diseases, as pleurisies, &c. yea, and in other diseases, yea, to prevent miscarriage, it may be done, not only in the middle, but in the first and last months.

HIP. If an erysipelas be in the womb of one with child, it is deadly.

COOK. Because the child dies from the greatness of the inflammation, whence follows abortion; it may be also from other inflammation.

HIP. If the part of the womb near the coxa suppurate, to the ulcer must be applied a tent dipped in liniment.

COOK. What liniment, is disputable. Some think it should be a hollow tent of silver, &c.

HIP. If a strong flux of the belly happen to a breeding woman, she is in great danger to miscarry.

COOK. For the aliment which should nourish the infant, is for the most part carried away, and the strength is abated; as also the ligaments of the womb are relaxed by a continual flux of humours thither; also the child and womb are infected by the vapours of the excrements which are continually voided.

ED.—Hippocrates, like all the old physiologists is upon the theory of conception, completely astray. In the foregoing aphorisms, as far as his description of symptoms, he is tolerably correct, and Cook, in his expoundings, is pretty well; but where either dip into physiological causes, they are miserably deficient.



## CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

ON RUBBING A DEAD MAN'S  
HAND TO A WEN.*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

The notice you took in one of your former numbers, and the censure you so deservedly gave to the horrid superstition existing among a number of people, who believed that rubbing a wen with the hand of a man who has been executed will effect a cure, has given rise to some warm contention, which causes me to think it will be a great work of time thoroughly to eradicate from the mind of man "superstition and bigotry." It has always appeared to me to be an absurdity to suppose, for a moment, it would effect any good; but not being able to prove, positively, what I believed, I have been compelled, in some degree, to give way to those who have told me it was the cold sweat from the hand which effected the cure, and that a female, who had once been afflicted with a wen was cured in this way, after having tried doctors to no purpose, was known to the person who gave me this information, and by him had been heard to assert it for fact. This, Sir, I cannot believe. I am requested to send you the following account of the cure of a wen, thinking you will insert it among your 'Old Women's Remedies examined,' with your opinion. A man, residing at Walthamstow, by trade a carpenter, had been to sea, and returned again, when he lived to the age of near ninety years; he had been for years afflicted with a wen, had tried several doctors to no purpose, until at last he was told to rub some salt on it with flannel, he did so, and he was cured of it, for it took it away and was never more seen. It was also tried by a gentleman residing in the neighbourhood, to whom it proved equally successful.—This fact, I am told, if disputed may be proved by the giving up the names of the persons that are now living, with their residences, &c.

A thing so simple in itself as this, possessing such power as it is said it does, would benefit the public by

giving publicity to it through your columns of the "Medical Adviser," if you think it deserving of room.

I remain, Sir,

Your's obediently.

September 5th, 1824.

W. W.

[We should like to have the names of the parties cured.]—ED.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

## IGNORANT SURGEONS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

YOUR having taken so worthy a part in exposing the impositions of the quacks, induces me to forward you the following narrative, showing the evil of trusting health and life to the ignorant practiser of the healing art: the names and place of occurrence are concealed, which cannot in any manner render less impressive the caution it may present. A young man, a native of —, in the county of —, had been engaged, for some considerable time, under a marriage contract to a young lady residing at the West End of the metropolis; several times he had visited London to prosecute his suit, which went on as happily as ever courtship could be desired; and with the consent of parents on both sides, together with the congratulation of all their friends, and their own reciprocal attachment. Thus situated, they promised to make the happiest pair: always with regret did he leave his dear — to return to his parental home; there would the time hang heavily on his hands, for ever looking forward for the wished-for moment to arrive when he might call the object of his attachment his own. Days and months thus rolled on, until at length the season approached when it was thought proper the anxious couple should be united; town was agreed upon to be the scene of nuptial



festivity, and thither his mind would often be, in far shorter space than matter possibly could move. His parents on the joyous occasion determined for once to leave the peaceful abode of —, to behold, amid the gaieties of town, the joys of their son and their daughter-in-law; all things at length were ready—bridal clothes and ornaments securely packed, ready for immediate departure, no one thing thought of was wanting, but that on the morrow's dawn the carriage should be at the door—all was bustle and activity, the journey, the wedding, and the gaieties of such a time occupied all their thoughts and conversation. Thus were they situated the morning of the day before departure; every thing looked as if all would go well; but alas! how insecure is man, even in his happiest and most blithesome hours. The evening previous to their intended departure, circumstances occurred that absolutely prevented the absence of the bridegroom's parents from home; no matter to the reader of what nature: to this delay may in some measure be attributed the catastrophe which follows, as under other circumstances it might not have occurred. Their son appearing anxious to depart (and the business which caused the delay of the parents, did not that of their offspring), to mitigate in some measure his chagrin, they permitted him to proceed on the appointed morn, in a chaise procured for the occasion, but still to postpone the wedding until they arrived; thinking by this indulgence he would feel less the impatience of delay. He received their parting blessing, and hoped to see them, at furthest in a few days, they assuring him it should be the case; bounding into the chariot, his heart light and gay, he dashed away; the rattling wheels and fleeting steeds bore him swiftly off and the sound away from his anxious parents. The first stage quickly and safely passed; soon were the horses changed, and a few hours brought him to the borders of the metropolis—pleasure glowed upon his cheek, and danced in his eye—too soon to bear the tear of woe-fraught expression. On entering one of the main streets, a brake was

just turning out some livery yard, its horses fierce and almost ungovernable, dashed along, and scarce knew a guiding rein; just at the instant the young lover arrived, and whether he was thinking of the expected pleasure of his meeting, which might make him off his guard, or whether through unskilful driving, his gig came in close contact with the brake, his vehicle was dashed to atoms with a tremendous crash, headlong was he thrown under the trampling hoofs of the affrighted cattle, where he lay until the passengers extricated him from his perilous situation, and bore him to a house hard by, where they found him covered with bruises, and a broken thigh; advice was instantly procured, such as it was, for it seemed as if ill-fortune closely followed on misfortune; Mr. —\* an uneducated surgeon as it afterwards appeared, who had just opened a dashing shop in the neighbourhood, was called in to his aid; he, blustering and dogmatical, ordered improper treatment, tortured him unneedfully in "setting" his fractured limbs, the outward liniments applied did him no good, and inward medicines (poisons rather) did him harm; he grew worse; fresh advice was procured, but sad to say, too late: his wounds had been improperly treated, his constitution trifled with, and beneath these accumulated ills, he soon became the prey of an unfeeling quack. His espoused bride tenderly watched his painful bed, sought to cheer him by her presence, and aid his recovery, but all in vain, not even the magic power of beauty could restore him. Information was dispatched to his parents, stating his disaster and hopeless state: they arrived, but in time to behold his last sigh as they entered in deep concern; he raised his feeble arm to welcome them, gave a feeble glance, uttered a groan of despair, and, with a weak voice, blessed them; then cast a look of love on her who was destined to have been his, sunk back and died.

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\* A fine exterior to a medical man's shop is but too often taken by the public for earnest of merit. Surgeons should not keep shops; they do not in either Ireland or France; and why should they—their profession is to use the hand, and not to sell medicine. We shall soon dwell on this subject.



His parents, in deep agony, would know no comfort, and the tender maid drooping under these pressing sorrows, called upon his name; but his last breath, sunk in death, answered her not as he was wont. She kissed his pallid cheek, but no impression could she make; life was extinct, and all his glow of health was gone. Despair possessed her frame; agitation worked upon her spirits, until at length her mind became disordered, and a maniac's frenzy worked the finishing stroke of the sad catastrophe. The parents both of bride and bridegroom duly bewailed their unhappy lot, which soon carried their grey hairs with sorrow to the grave; and all who claimed a kin, as well as strangers too, mournfully tell their tale to warn the unwary and unthinking against employing persons who attempt to practise the healing art without the proper knowledge and necessary skill successfully to dispense it. That others may take timely notice and warning ere it be too late, is the motive which induces the publication of the above narrative.—“Fore warned, fore armed.” T. N.

#### DOCTOR LANG.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

HAVING observed your opposition to the quacks and approving thereof, am willing to assist you so far as is in my power; but was greatly disgusted to see the respectable name of Dr. Lang associated in your burlesque with such as Cameron, Eady, Jordan, &c. &c. &c.

Not being of the faculty, I am not so capable of distinguishing critically, who are and who are not proper persons to apply that epithet to; therefore request you to explain what person may be properly considered a quack.

As I wish for information, and do not desire to give you unnecessary trouble, will put the following interrogatories:—

Is a gentleman, who has received a liberal education, but not in one of our Universities, and yet has competent knowledge to practice in physic, and does practice in this country, to be considered a quack?

Is a native of this country, who

has acquired by his own industry, a competent knowledge to practise in physic, and does practise, a quack?

Is a foreigner who has had a diploma from the College of Physicians in his own country, and who practises in physic in this country, a quack?

In short, is a gentleman, who practises in physic in this country a quack, because he does not belong to our College of Physicians, or Company of Apothecaries?

If you, Sir, or any of your numerous readers, will satisfy me respecting these ideas, I shall consider myself much obliged.

And am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

September 23, 1824.

IGNOR.

[To the above interrogatories we answer, that no man's *own* opinion of his medical acquirements can warrant him to practise the healing art, he must have the opinions of others, hence an examination by a learned body. If such be, he is a *quack*. Every quack thinks himself *qualified*. A member or licentiate of any College, whether foreigner or not, cannot be a quack, although it is too much the practice for London physicians to sink their foreign brethren to that level.

As to Dr. Lang, whether he possess a diploma or not, he is a *water-caster*, and what does IGNOR call that?—ED.]

#### JAMES, THE QUACK.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

A FRIEND of mine having unfortunately contracted a certain complaint, was recommended to go to a fellow of the name of James (a worse quack than Jordan, Brown, or Eady); he took his medicines for upwards of six weeks, when he found that instead of deriving any benefit he was daily getting worse, and was obliged to keep his bed; he had been giving him such a quantity of mercury that I am confident if he had taken it much longer it would have put an end to his existence; he had paid him upwards of “five pounds.” In this state he was obliged to send for a physician, who said that his life was



in a very precarious state. However, after administering him necessary medicines, he soon recovered.

I hope, Sir, you will not fail putting this in your next week's "Medical Adviser," and you will much oblige,

Sir,

Your's respectfully,

QUERPO.

September 20th, 1824.

[This James lives in Wellclose-square, and was formerly a bill-sticker.]—ED.

### MORDAUNT, THE QUACK.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

LOOKING over the "Morning Advertiser" of yesterday, I perceive an advertisement of a fellow in the name of Mordaunt, the contents of which is as follows:—

"Scalded heads, ring-worms, hoop-  
"ing cough, and the croop effectually  
"cured; also worms in children  
"entirely removed, by a peculiar  
"mode of treatment, known only by  
"Mr. Mordaunt, the celebrated hoop-  
"ing cough doctor, No. 23, Paternoster Row, near Spitalfields Church."

This quack was formerly a publican in an extensive way of business, but owing to some cause or other he contrived to get into the Bench; he now keeps a barber's shop, and also practises in physic. It is really astonishing that people are such fools to be duped by such gross and illiterate pretenders.

I will thank you to put this in your "Annals of Quackery," for the good of the public.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

A CONSTANT READER.

P.S. Do you not think you had better put at the bottom of his advertisement "shave well for a penny, and bleed for two pence."

### THE KENT-ROAD QUACK.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

Sir,

WHEN I last had the honour of addressing you, I promised to acquaint you with the result of my visit to the above-mentioned indi-

vidual, but business has lately been so urgent as to prevent me from accomplishing this desirable object; however, as a few *facts* relative to this soi-disant physician may not be unacceptable, I shall take the liberty of detailing them to you. M'D. is, as his name implies, one of Scotia's sons, and was apprenticed when young, in his own country (about the Tweed) to a knight of the needle; after serving a few years, his *noble* mind grew tired of this solitary occupation; a separation took place with mutual consent, and he afterwards engaged in some ship, as *Lob-lolly-boy* to the surgeon's mate; he had not long held this station before the death of the mate raised him (from necessity) to his *ne plus ultra*, on the scale of promotion, and here in the course of a very few months he acquired the rudiments of his present system of slaughter. On the return of the ship, our hero landed in London, and returned to his original occupation under a person of the name of *Sandwich*, who at present resides in this neighbourhood; in this situation he remained for a length of time, alike "unknown and unknown," till at last he suddenly emerged from the clippings of the shop board, and commenced his present audacious and criminal career. Pray, Sir, have you ever seen him? He is certainly one of the most insignificant creatures that ever disgraced his Maker's image, an unmeaning grin is continually observable in his countenance, and of his mode of treatment I shall now give you a description.

For a common catarrh I have known this fellow recommend *ten* or a dozen black pepper corns to be taken at bed time, and about ten grains of camphor to be swallowed *en masse* the first thing in a morning, and then follows a strong portion of sulphuric acid, and water to be taken frequently in the course of the day

"Thus goes he on fra day to day."

"Thus does he poison kill and slay."

And's weel paid for't;

"Depriving death of's lawful prey"

"Wi his d——d dirt."



Indeed vitriol seems his sheet-anchor; he gives it invariably in all diseases, whether acute or chronic, and its indiscriminate application sometimes occasions the most distressing symptoms. Not long ago a poor woman applied to us for something to relieve a pain in the stomach and bowels, and for which she had been taking a very copious draught of M'D.'s delectable vitriol, the effects of which had increased her former complaint, and produced such strong spasms in the feet and hands, that while standing she was obliged to call her husband every five minutes to "*stand upon her feet*" in order as she said "to keep them down." By a little proper medicine this poor creature was relieved in a few days.—Another female had been under his treatment for many months, with an ulcer in the cheek, which he termed "cancerous," but had obstinately resisted "each and every" of his most powerful applications. Had any person but a stupid blockhead examined this case, its nature would at once have been distinctly ascertained; it was prevented from healing by being kept in a continual state of irritation by the broken extremity of a tooth; this tooth was extracted and the ulcer healed in a fortnight: does not the practice of such an ignorant pretender loudly call for redress? But I hope the nefarious system of quackery will soon be obliterated, and that posterity will have to thank THE MEDICAL ADVISER for the complete reformation of the healing art.

N. B. Mrs. Linfield, the Quack Midwife, in my next.



#### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

Mr. Doby's emetic; or, poisoning and prudence.—A druggist of the name of Doby, residing in Ex-

mouth-street, Clerkenwell, was lately applied to by two young men for an emetic to use in a case of supposed poison. He promptly compounded the emetic; but as the young men ran out in haste, and forgot to bring with them that *pass to the medical heart*—a fee, Mr. Doby refused to let them have the emetic until it was paid for; but *humanely* permitted one to take it, while the other remained in pledge! This proves that Mr. Doby's humanity was by no means *mad-brained*, but mixed up with a due quantum of prudence. "*Nothing for nothing*" is a good motto, and an emetic costs a half-penny.

*Stomach Syringe.*—This has gone down all our throats as a new invention. We have, however, discovered that it adds another proof to the truth of the old adage, "nothing new under the sun." The original plate from which this "new invention" has been taken is in our possession, and was published a hundred years ago!—the public shall have a copy of it in one of our ensuing Numbers.

*New Cure for Epilepsy.*—Wormwood is going the round of the papers, as a new and effectual cure for epilepsy. We do not wish to damp exertions in proving it; but we have great doubts of its efficacy. We should thank those who try the remedy to transmit us an account of its power.

*Dr. Blundel's Blowpipe.*—It is whispered, and many believe, that Wham-cham-poo, an adroit and profound professor of legerdemain has sent over to London a confidential friend, with proposals to Dr. Blundel to exhibit the wonderful blowpipe, which produced such *astonishing* effects upon the man who lately died at Guy's Hospital of hydrophobia. Wham-cham-poo proposes a handsome salary to the doctor, if he will exhibit a dozen nights at the Whang-kong-koo Theatre, before his Most Celestial Majesty upon the first mandarin Cheu-lou-quang, the muscles of whose face were never known to move. He further proposes to make the doctor physician to all mad dogs of China, for this *laughable exhibition*.

*Hydrophobia.*—A letter signed F.



appeared in the "Morning Post" of last Wednesday, which (naturally enough) echo our sentiments upon the late bungling at Guy's Hospital in the fatal case of hydrophobia, and very properly remarks, that the bleeding was highly improper, as well as introducing *spirits* into the veins; but the writer carries his caustic opinions too far, when he blames every sort of treatment used in hydrophobia, but merely *washing the parts bitten with warm water, and simply dressing them*. The melancholy case of the officer

of the rifle corps, who fell a victim to the bite of his own dog which he took from the dead body of his former master at Waterloo, is in direct contradiction to such opinion. This gentleman's wound was simply treated, yet two months after it healed, and when he had no apprehension of the disease he was attacked with the worst symptoms, and died. The writer F. will also find by a little more patient examination into the nature of tetanus and hydrophobia, that they differ very much from each other.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

D. B. D. HELENBURG's effect is either from cold or snuff-taking. Put cold cream up the nostril frequently, and keep the head warm at night.

H. G. Newgate Market will do well to continue the medicine.

T. Y. Z. must take five grains of blue pill every three nights, for a month, and every week a dose of salts on an intermediate day. When the effect he speaks of in his head comes on, let him take a glass of strong ale.

X. X. X. I. should read attentively our remarks in page 338 "Medical Adviser," and treat himself accordingly. Pleasant society, and a little wine or grog, will serve him. Let him write in a month.

G. S. S.—When we received his letter we were in the act of reading two advertisements in the "Times," for the sale of *cauls*, one twenty guineas, the other fifteen! We mean to remark upon this humbug at a future opportunity. An Irish friend of ours observed to us, that the fools who buy them ought to be drowned. to teach them better sense.

A. B. W. F. Austin Friars, should take two of the following pills every second or third night.—A drachm of the extract of colocynth, and ten grains of calomel, made into eighteen pills.

J—\*\* of Sun-street, requires the inspection of a surgeon, and we cannot recommend him a better than Mr. Farmer, who lives in Crown-street, near Sun-street. If he send Mr. F.'s written opinion to us we will give any advice in our power.

CANDADUS's letter has come to hand, and shall be remarked upon, if not published next week. Dr. Lang is certainly a *waterman*.

A. B. BARKER's LIBRARY, has been humbugged by "Dr. DANIEL's," and that wretched drayman, "Dr. PEED." Let him make his mind easy, nothing is the matter with him. Use a wash of sulphur of zinc and water, a scruple to two ounces of water, and observe cleanliness.

H. J. ST. MARTIN's, &c.—The rhubarb is good by itself, first, and after that the laudanum, but not together. We hope he will recover.

TARRAM's letter is answered.

J. JOHNSON's letter on the Jordans next week.

J. H. will, in all probability, find relief in a spoonful occasionally of the lac ammoniac, and a little syrup of squills. Get it made up at any respectable apothecary's.

The letter signed "John Bull," is of great use to us.



# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

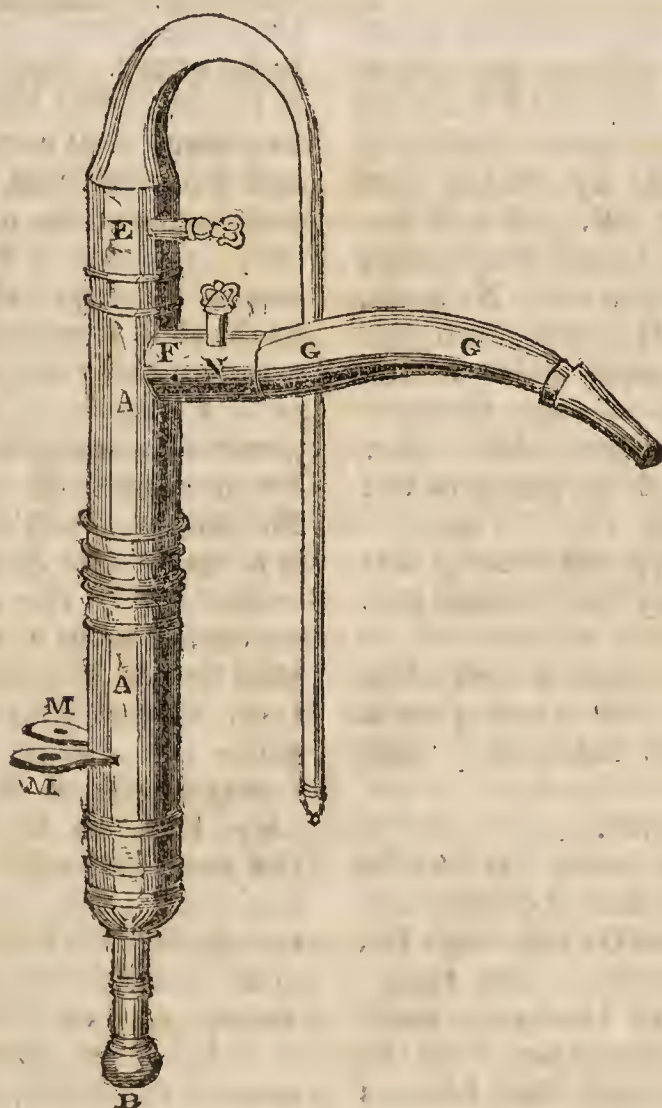
## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 46.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



PLAN OF A SYRINGE PUBLISHED 100 YEARS AGO,  
FROM WHICH WAS TAKEN THE STOMACH SYRINGE.

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## DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE,

*Verbatim from Dr. James Drake's  
Anatomy, Published 1727.*

**SHEWS** some anatomical instruments, but especially the syringe, by which water is easily injected.

**A A**, a brass syringe, holding twenty ounces of water.

**B**, the pestle, or embolum.

**CCC**, a flexible leathern pipe, very useful in dissection.—These letters of reference are wanting in the figure.

**D**, the mouth of the leathern pipe, compassed about with a brass tunnel, to which the pipe **IIIS** may be fitted.

**EN**, two cocks by which the liquor goes in or out. For when the pestle **B** is in the syringe, and the cock **E** is stopt, and **N** open, the liquor will easily pass into the syringe by the pipe **GG**. If the pestle **B** be drawn out, and the cock **N** stopt, and **E** open, the liquor contained in **AAE** is brought out at **D**.

**F**, a brass pipe joined to **AA**, that the water **GG** may be drawn into **AA**.

**GG**, a leathern pipe joined close to **F**; through which any liquor it is put into ascends into the syringe **AA**.

**H**, its brass mouth.

**III**, a silver or brass pipe to be put upon the mouth **D**, that the liquor may go from **C C** through **III**, into the part that is to be sent to.

**S**, the mouth of the pipe made very small, that it may pass into the lacteal vessels and chyloferous ducts.

**D**, the mouth of the pipe, to be fastened to the mouth **D**, which skrews, but with much trouble.

Thus we see, that neither Mr. Jukes nor Mr. Reed can claim the invention of the Stomach Syringe. It is true Dr. Drake applied it for anatomical injections, and that Mr. Jukes applied it in cases of poison, for which useful application he is certainly entitled to praise, but he can no more state that he is the inventor of the Syringe.

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

By attending to the thick purulent expectoration connected with hectic fever, the disease may readily be distinguished from all others.

All over the Levant, not only the natives, but also the physicians entertain an opinion that phthisis is a disease of a contagious nature; and in the Venetian states there is a law, I understand, which directs the clothes and even the furniture of those who have died of consumptions to be burnt. Under the same idea, it is customary among the Sicilians to desert the consumptive patient, and when he dies, they burn his bed and bed-clothes, and well ventilate and fumigate the apartments in which he lay. It does not seem probable, however, that phthisis pulmonalis is infectious, at least it is not regarded so among us at present, although Morgagni, Van Swieten, and of a still later date, Morton, were of that opinion; but it often occurs in a family from an exposure to the same occasional causes, or from a similarity of constitution and hereditary predisposition. The only way in which I conceive the disease can be conveyed from one person to another, if at all possible, is by sleeping constantly in the same bed with one who labours under it, in its ulcerative stage, accompanied with fetid expectoration and cadaverous smelling night-sweats, and so inhaling his breath. Two or three seemingly well-marked cases of this nature have fallen under my own observation. Respecting the question of contagion in this disease, the late Dr. Heberden observes, that he has not seen proof enough to say that the breath of a consumptive person is infectious; and yet he has seen too much appearance of it to be sure that it is not; for he has observed several die of consumptions, in whom infection seemed to be the most probable origin of their illness, from their having been the constant companions or bed-fellows of consumptive persons. Viewing the subject



in this light, it would therefore be advisable to avoid being too closely innated with patients in the last stage of pulmonary consumption.

The proximate cause of phthisis is supposed to be an ulcer in the lungs.

Climate, occupation, and temperament, will diversify the form of phthisis; but for practical purposes, it may be sufficient to distinguish carefully between pulmonary consumption which occurs in persons of the strumous temperament, and that which attacks constitutions of a different description from accidental causes, such as an exposure to cold, or as the consequence of other diseases. The most common and most destructive form of the disease is, the strumous or tubercular phthisis.

The incipient symptoms of phthisis will vary with the cause of the disease; but when it arises in persons of a strumous temperament, or from tubercles, it is mostly thus marked: it begins with a short dry cough, that at length becomes habitual, but from which nothing is spit up for some time, except a frothy mucus that seems to proceed from the fauces. The breathing is at the same time somewhat impeded, and upon the least bodily motion is much hurried; a sense of straitness, with oppression at the chest, is experienced; the body becomes gradually leaner, and great languor, with indolence, dejection of spirits, and loss of appetite, prevail.

In this state the patient frequently continues a considerable length of time, during which he is however more readily affected than usual by slight colds; and upon one or other of these occasions the cough becomes more troublesome and severe, particularly by night, and is at length attended with an expectoration, which towards morning is more free and copious. By degrees the matter which is expectorated becomes more viscid and opaque, and now assumes a greenish colour and purulent appearance, being on many occasions streaked with blood. In some cases a more severe degree of hæ-

moptysis attends, and the patient spits up a considerable quantity of florid frothy blood.

The breathing at length becomes more difficult, and the emaciation and weakness go on increasing. With these the person begins to be sensible of a pain in some part of the thorax, which, however, is usually felt at first under the sternum, particularly on coughing.

At a more advanced period of the disease a pain is sometimes perceived on one side, and at times prevails in so high a degree as to prevent the person from lying easily on that side; but it more frequently happens, that it is felt only upon making a full inspiration, or coughing. Even where no pain is felt, it often happens that those who labour under phthisis cannot lie easily on one or other of their sides, without a fit of coughing being excited, or the difficulty of breathing being much increased.

At the first commencement of the disease the pulse is often natural, or perhaps is soft, small, and a little quicker than usual: but when the symptoms which have been enumerated have subsisted for any length of time, it then becomes full, hard, and frequent. At the same time the face flushes, particularly after eating; the palms of the hands and soles of the feet are affected with burning heat; the respiration is difficult and laborious, evening exacerbations become obvious, and by degrees the fever assumes the hectic form.

This species of fever is evidently of the remittent kind, and has in many cases exacerbations twice every day. The first occurs usually about noon, and a slight remission ensues about five in the afternoon. This last is, however, soon succeeded by another exacerbation, which increases gradually until after midnight; but about two o'clock in the morning a remission takes place, becoming more apparent as the morning advances, and in the advanced stage of the disease terminating in a profuse sweat, which however is usually partial.



During the exacerbations the patient is very sensible to any coldness of the air, and often complains of a sense of cold, when his skin is, at the same time, preternaturally warm. Of these exacerbations, that of the evening is by far the most considerable.

From the first appearance of the hectic symptoms, the urine is high-coloured, and deposits a copious branny red sediment. The appetite, however, is not greatly impaired, the tongue appears clean, the mouth is usually moist, and the thirst is inconsiderable. As the disease advances, the fauces put on rather an inflamed appearance, and towards the termination are often beset with aphthæ, and the red vessels of the tunica adnata become of a pearly white. During the exacerbations a florid circumscribed redness appears on each cheek; but at other times the face is pale, and the countenance somewhat dejected.

At the commencement of hectic fever the belly is usually costive; but in the more advanced stages of it a diarrhœa often comes on, and this continues to recur frequently during the remainder of the disease: colliquative sweats likewise break out, and these alternate with each other, and induce vast debility. The degree of heat in which the patient is kept has often a great effect on the diarrhœa; for by exposing him to cool air in the morning, the sweat may be much diminished, but the diarrhœa will be increased; and on the other hand, if the diarrhœa be relieved by opiates and astringents, the sweating will be aggravated: thus they frequently alternate for a long time, but in a few instances they are both severe at once.

In the last stage of phthisis the emaciation is so great that the patient has the appearance of a walking skeleton; his countenance is altered, his cheek bones are prominent, his eyes look hollow and languid, his hair falls off, his nails are of a livid colour, and much incurvated, and his feet and ancles are affected with œdematous swellings. To the end of the disease the senses remain en-

tire, and the mind is confident and full of hope. It is indeed a happy circumstance attendant on phthisis, that those who labour under it are seldom apprehensive or aware of any danger; and it is no uncommon occurrence to meet with persons labouring under its most advanced stage, flattering themselves with a speedy recovery, and forming distant projects under that vain hope.

*(To be continued.)*

## CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD.

*By Mr. Charles Bell.*

IT is the study of air and aerial fluids that has brought to light all the beautiful discoveries of which modern chemistry can boast. The simplicity of the facts in chemistry, the correctness of the reasoning, the grandeur which now the whole science assumes is very pleasing; and leaves us not without hope, that by this science, all others, and ours in an especial manner, may be improved.

The older chemists were coarse in their methods, bold in their conjectures, in theory easily satisfied with any thing which others would receive. They condescended to repeat incessantly the same unvarying process over each article of the materia medica; and among hundreds of medicinal plants which they had thus analysed, they could find no variety of principles, nor any other variety of parts and names than those of phlegm, and oil, and alkali, and acid, and sulphur, and coal. By this they disburthened their consciences of all they knew, pleased their scholars, and set the physicians to work, forming magnificent theories of salts, sulphurs, and oils; for such has ever been the connection of chemistry with physiology, that, good or bad, they have still gone hand in hand.

The older chemists thought that they had arrived at the pure elements, while they were working grossly among the grosser parts of



bodies. They could know nothing of the aerial forms of bodies, for they allowed these parts to escape. When their subjects, by extreme force of heat, rose upwards in the form of air, no further investigation was attempted; it was supposed that the subject of their operation was consumed, annihilated, wasted into air, and quite gone. When they thus stopped at airs, they stopped where only their analysis became interesting or simple; stopping where they stopped, among their oils and sulphurs, they made their science a mere rhapsody of words. Philosophy they considered so little, as not to know that the lightest air is really a heavy body, and that with weight and substance other properties must be presumed.

Modern chemistry begins by assuring us, that these airs are often the densest bodies in the rarest forms; that airs are as material, as manifest to the senses, as fairly subject to our operations, as the dense bodies from which they are produced: that it is heat alone (a substance which irresistibly forces its way into all bodies) that converts any substance into the aerial form: that some bodies require for their fluidity merely the heat of the atmosphere, and so cannot appear on this planet in any solid form: that others require some new principle to be added in order to give them the gaseous or aerial form: that others require very intense heat to force them into this state; but that all aerial fluids arise, or must be presumed to arise, from some solid body or basis, which solid basis is dilated by heat into an air. The solid basis of some airs can be made apparent, as of fixed air, which proceeds from charcoal; others, as pure air, or azotic air, (the great constituents of our atmosphere,) cannot be produced to view in any solid form. But those airs which cannot be exhibited in any solid form, can yet be so combined with other bodies as to increase their weight and give them qualities of a very peculiar nature; and these airs can be alternately combined with a body and abstracted again, adding or abstracting from its weight

and chemical properties, not only in a perceptible, but in a wonderful degree; so that these abstractions and combinations constitute some of the most general and important facts. When the old chemists, then, neglected to examine these airs, they refrained from examining the first elements of bodies at the very moment in which they came within their power.

That these must be the most material and important facts in all the science, it is easy to explain; for chemistry, ever since it has been a science, has rested upon one single point. There are certain great operations in chemistry which we perceive to have the strictest analogy with each other, or rather to be the same; the operations are, the combustion of inflammable bodies, the respiration of animals, the calcination of metals; and whatever theory explains one explains the whole. The older chemists observed, that when they burn an inflammable body, the surrounding air was contaminated, the substance itself was annihilated, nothing remained of its former existence but the foul air; and they supposed that this inflammable body consisted of a pure inflammable principle, which was the substance which spoiled the air, lessening its bulk, and making it unfit for supporting any longer either combustion or animal life. When an animal breathed in confined air, they found the phenomenon still the same; the animal contaminated the air, and expired itself; left the air unfit for burning or breathing, loaded, as they supposed, with the inflammable principle. When they calcined a metal, (which is done merely by heating the metal and exposing it to air,) they found, as in these other operations, the air contaminated, the metal losing its metallic lustre, ductility, and all the marks of a metal,—acquiring (in certain examples) new qualities, like those of some mineral acid, and becoming of course a most caustic drug; but above all, they uniformly observed the metal to increase in weight.

To account for all these discor-



stant changes was the most difficult part of all: it was indeed easy to say, that combustion was the giving out of an inflammable principle to the air; and to say concerning respiration, that it was the business of the air to take away continually the superabundant phlogiston of the blood; but how a metal should pass from a mild to a most acrimonious and caustic state; and above all, how by the loss of its inflammable principle it should not lose in weight, but increase in weight! This was the Gordian knot which they had to untie, and which they cut lustily, betaking themselves, in defiance of all philosophy, to the absurd project of a principle of absolute lightness. They all agreed to call the phlogistic principle, a principle of absolute levity; and thus their doctrine stood for many years, viz. that when phlogiston, or inflammable principle, was added to the calx of any metal, as to red lead, by roasting it with any inflammable body—the metallic lustre, tenacity, ductility, were restored, and the metal became lighter withal, because it now had within it the principle of levity. But that when by heat and air it was calcined, this principle was driven out, and then the metallic lustre, tenacity, ductility, &c. were lost by the absence of the inflammable principle upon which they all depended; but the weight of it was increased, for the principle of levity was gone. This is the brief abstract of the theory to which the very best chemists have addicted themselves down to the present time.

But the chief perfection of modern chemistry is, that its apparatus is so perfect, that it can employ exactly a certain quantity of air in calcining a metal; it can collect that air again to the twentieth part of a grain; it can prove whether the metal has really been giving out any inflammable principle to the air, or whether it has received matter from the air, and how much expressly it has gained or lost. Modern chemistry proves to us, that it is not the loss of any principle that endows a metal, for example, with

negative powers; but the direct acquisition of a new principle, which endows it with positive powers. Thus if you take a quantity of mercury, and expose it slowly, that is, for a long time to, heat and air, the following changes take place; it gradually loses its metallic lustre, the upper part of it assumes first a yellow and then a red colour, small red particles are seen floating on the surface of the mercury; and these are the mercurius precipitatus per se, a most acrid calx of mercury. If, first, you estimate how much air has been expended during the process, you find that the weight of the mercury is increased in exact proportion; if you put that calx into a gun-barrel, put the gun-barrel into the fire, and by mere force of heat drive out this air, you find the quantity of air exactly equivalent to the quantity expended in the process; you find the metal grow lighter, and recover its metallic qualities and lustre in proportion as the air is expelled. In short, we find the metal heavier when combined with air, lighter when the air is driven out; we find it having the qualities of a metal when uncombined with air,—when combined with air having the qualities of a calx; then plainly this caustic form of the metal is not a negative quality, it is a positive one, proceeding from the infusion of this new principle from the air.

By such proofs as these chemistry has explained, in a most philosophical way, how all these phlogistic processes, as they were called, depend, not on the abstraction of phlogiston, but on the addition of a new principle: that they all arise from one positive power; that the same principle gives life to fuel, increase of weight (and other effects of calcination) to metals, acidity to acids, and redness to the blood. These are all performed by one power; they are all essentially one process; they are all effected by the communication of one sole principle, viz. the basis of pure air.

Upon our atmosphere and its surprising harmony with all parts of nature; with animal and vegetable life; with water, metals, acids, and



all the solid bodies into which it enters—much more depends than it is easy to conceive. Could we have supposed that it was the cause, not merely of life in all living creatures, but almost the cause of all the properties that reside in the most solid forms? Could we have supposed that air rendered heavy bodies heavier, changed metals into the most caustic substances, converted many bodies into acids, changed inflammable air into the pure element of water, which at least we have hitherto conceived to be pure? Yet if there be one word of truth in chemistry, all this is true.

*(To be continued.)*

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

### OF THE JOINTS.

HIP. Aposthemes are caused near the joints, especially near the jaw-bones, to them which feel weariness or lassitude in fevers.

COOK. But withal, there must be neither much thick and white urine, nor flux of the belly, which may carry away the diseased matter.

HIP. Those which, recovering from a disease, have a pain in the same place, shall have imposthumes or blotches in that part.

COOK. That is, when after recovery there is some reliques of the feverish matter left behind, nature exudes the matter into the external parts: therefore purge cum pil. aloëphan.

HIP. If any be pained before a disease, there is the seat of the disease.

COOK. It shews the humour is to be diverted thence, especially if it be a principal part, that so the diseased matter may be removed.

HIP. Such as are detained with long fevers have long swellings, or pains arising in their joints.

COOK. They are said to be long that last above forty days, and are caused by a thick, cold, and stubborn matter, which being not easily evacuated by excretion, nature often

casts it to the outward parts, and there begets an ulcer.

HIP. Those which have long swellings, or pains in the joints after a fever, do use too plentiful diet.

COOK. This differs not much from the next before.

HIP. Children are free from the gout before they use venery.

COOK. Unless it be hereditary, or the parent had the French pox.

HIP. A woman is not troubled with the gout unless her courses fail her.

COOK. Or flow very sparingly; therefore if they be afflicted with it, move their courses.

HIP. Those troubled with the gout, the inflammation ceasing, they have ease in forty days.

COOK. For in such parts as have little natural heat, the matter offending requires a long time to discuss it; but the time is not always certain, for some are healed sooner, and some later, which depends upon the quality of the matter, &c.

HIP. Gouty pains do chiefly stir spring and fall.

COOK. Therefore purge, &c. then. In spring, because the humour forced inward by the former winter is drawn out, and being attenuated, falls upon the coats. In autumn, the digestive faculty being debilitated by the former summer, also eating summer fruits, causes crudities, which fly to the joints.

HIP. Those who have had long pains of the hips, and the bone fall forth and returns in again, it shews there is congealed phlegm gathered in the hollowness of the part.

COOK. The flowing humour, insinuating itself into the cavity of the hip-bone, the thinner part being discussed, the thicker doth loosen the bands, which knits together the joints: hence luxation. See the next aphorism.

HIP. Such as are troubled with a long sciatic pain, and have their hip fall forth, their leg wasting, they become lame, unless they be burnt.

COOK. The bones pressing upon the muscles, veins, arteries, motion



is hindered, and the blood and spirits cannot quickly flow into the lower parts, and so hinder nourishment. A cautery must be applied before wasting, &c.

HIP. Two pains infesting together, but not in the same place, the more vehement obscures the other.

COOK. That is to say, affects or diseases in the similar parts; and it teaches to make our applications to that which pains most.

#### ULCERS AND WOUNDS.

HIP. In great and dangerous wounds, if no tumour appear, it is ill.

COOK. The wounded part being weakest, nature sends humours thither; which if not, it is to be feared they take their course to some noble part.

HIP. That wound is deadly whereby the bladder, brain, heart, midriff, any of the small guts, stomach, and liver are hurt.

COOK. Yet those of the neck of the bladder, also those of the liver and brain, if superficial, and sometimes those of the stomach, are curable.

HIP. If the small guts be pierced, they grow not together again.

COOK. It must be in that part of them that touches the mesentery, from the greatness of the veins that thence come to them.

HIP. When a bone, or gristle, or nerve, or small portion of the cheek, or the prepuce, is cut asunder, they neither increase nor grow together.

COOK. Because they are either bony, spermatic, or nervous parts.

HIP. Whatsoever ulcers are of a year's continuance, or more, the bone must needs scale, and the scar become hollow.

COOK. From a flux of sharp humours, which corrode both the membranes and bones; and therefore, it scaling, the scar becomes hollow, and being hard, cannot receive increase from the blood.

HIP. In wounds of the brain there necessarily follows a fever, and vomiting bile.

COOK. If they be deep, the fever ariseth from the inflammation of the

brain caused by putrid blood, the vapours whereof are sent to the heart; the vomiting is by consent from the nerves of the sixth conjugation.

HIP. When the caul hangs forth, it necessarily putrifies.

COOK. Therefore to be restored presently; or, if putrid, cut it off, lest it spread to the rest of the parts.

HIP. A flux of blood ensuing upon a great pulsation in ulcers, is ill.

COOK. Because the veins and arteries are eroded; besides, it shews the sharpness and virulency of the matter.

HIP. They who have a concussion of the brain, by what outward cause soever, must of necessity become dumb; yea, and oft lose sense and motion.

COOK. All the senses and motion are hurt.

HIP. Ulcers that have the skin smooth and shining about them, are ill.

COOK. For it shews there resides a malign acrid humour that frets asunder the roots of the hair, and depraves the natural structure of the pores.

#### PRETERNATURAL TUMOURS, AS INFLAMMATION, &c.

HIP. Those are seldom troubled with convulsions or madness who have apparent tumours with their ulcers; but convulsions or tetanos happen to them in whom the tumour suddenly vanisheth, if they happen on the hinder part of the body; but if they happen on the fore part, there happens madness, vehement pains of the side, suppuration, and the bloody flux, especially if the tumour be reddish.

COOK. He means oedemas, that are soft and loose, and wounds and ulcers, which, if they suddenly vanish, produce the foresaid evils; but if they pass away by degrees, there is no danger, for it shews noxious humours are removed and dissolved.

HIP. Soft tumours are good; but those crude and hard, are ill.



**COOK.** It is spoken of tumours coming upon wounds and ulcers; those soft, shew the gentleness of the humour, the other shews them inconcoct.

**HIP.** Broad pustules itch least.

**COOK.** For they are not from such hot humours as those which are less and high.

**HIP.** Those afflicted with long fevers have little aches and swelling in the joints.

**COOK.** It might have been put in fevers, or affects of the joints.

#### OF ERYSIPELAS.

**HIP.** An erysipelas coming upon the bearing of a bone, is ill.

**COOK.** Because the malign venomous matter moistening the bone, at length it mollifies; now this malign matter may be hot or cold.

**HIP.** Putrefaction or suppuration coming upon an erysipelas, is ill.

**COOK.** For it shews the ill matter of the erysipelas, which eats inward into the sound parts. Celsus adviseth a cautery.

**HIP.** If an erysipelas turns from without inward, it is ill; the contrary is good.

**COOK.** This doth not only shew, that it is best when nature drives out from the more noble to those more ignoble, &c., but also that such medicines are not to be applied that cool too much. A medicine framed of red rose vinegar, and spawn of frog-water, wherein is boiled myrrh, is excellent.

**ED.** These aphorisms are not so objectionable as the last, nor is Cook so great a bore.

#### ASTHMATIC PILLS

Of squill pill,

Of compound extract of colocynth, two drachms each—mix, and divide into twenty-four pills; one every night.

#### *On the Healthy use of Clothes.*

OF all the customs of clothing, the most extremely absurd is the usual arrangement of bed-clothes, which, in order as the chambermaid fancies to make the bed look pretty in the

day time, are left long at the head, that they may cover the pillows; when they are turned down, you have an intolerable load on your lungs, and that part of the body which is most exposed during the day, is smothered at night with double the quantity of clothes that any other part has.

Sleep is prevented by an unpleasant degree of either heat or cold; and in this ever-varying climate, where often "in one monstrous day all seasons mix," delicate thermometrical persons will derive much comfort from keeping a counterpane in reserve for an additional covering in very cold weather, when some extra clothing is as needful by night as a great coat is by day.

A gentleman who has a mind to carry the adjustment of his clothes to a nicety, may have the shelves of his wardrobe numbered, 30, 40, 50, 60, &c. and according to the degree of cold pointed to by his Fahrenheit, he may wear a corresponding defence against it. This mode of adjusting dress according to the vicissitudes of the weather, &c., is as rational as the ordinary practice of regulating it by the almanack, or the fashion, which, in this uncertain climate and capricious age, will as often lead us wrong as right.

Leave off your winter clothes late in the spring; put them on early in the autumn. By wearing your winter clothes during the first half dozen warm days, you get some fine perspirations, which are highly salutary in removing obstructions in the cutaneous pores, &c.

Delicate and dyspeptic persons are often distressed by changing their dress, which must be as uniform as possible, in thickness, in quality, and in form, especially flannel, or indeed whatever is worn next to the skin.

The change of a thick waistcoat for a thin one, or a long one for a shorter one,—not putting on winter garments soon enough, or leaving them off too soon, will often excite a violent disorder in the lungs or bowels, &c. and exasperate any constitutional complaint.



Those who wear flannel waist-coats are recommended to have their new ones about the middle of November, with sleeves to them coming down to the wrist; the shortening these sleeves in the warm weather, is as effective an antidote against extreme heat as lengthening them, and closing the cuff of the coat, is against intense cold.

Our coat should be made so large, that when buttoned we may be as easy as when it is unbuttoned, so that without any unpleasant increase of pressure on the chest, &c. we can wear it closely buttoned up to the chin; the power of doing this is a convenient provision against the sudden alterations from heat to cold; buttoning up this outer garment will protect the delicate from many mischiefs which so often arise in this inconstant climate from the want of such a defence; and the additional warmth it produces will often cure slight colds, &c.

Another way of accumulating caloric, is to have two sets of button holes to the cuff of the coat, especially of your great coat, one of which will bring it quite close round the wrist.

When the circulation is languid, and your feet are cold, wear worsted stockings, have your shoes well warmed, and when you take them from the fire, put your slippers to it, that they may be warm and comfortable for you on your return home.

In wet weather wear shoes with double upper leathers; two thin leathers will keep you much drier than one thick one, and are more pliable. The currier's dubbing is the best nourisher of leather, and renders it as soft as satin, and impervious to water.

The mean temperature of England is about 50 degrees of Fahrenheit; it sometimes rises 25 degrees above this in the height of summer, falls about as much below in the depth of winter; and in summer frequently varies from 20 to 30 degrees between mid-day and mid-night.

The restoration and the preser-

vation of the health, especially of those who have passed their fortieth year, depends upon minute and unremitting attentions to food, clothes, exercise, &c., which, taken singly, may appear trifling—but, combined, are of infinite importance.

“If you are careful of it, glass will last as long as iron.” By a regular observance of a few salutary precepts, a delicate constitution will last as long, and afford its proprietor as many amusements, as a strong body, whose mind takes but little care of it.

Invalids are advised to put on a great coat when they go out, and the temperature of the external air is not higher than 40. Some susceptible constitutions require this additional clothing when the thermometer falls below 50; especially at the commencement of the cold weather.

A great coat must be kept in a room where there is a fire; if it has been hung up in a cold damp hall, as it often is, it will contribute about as much to your calorification as if you wrapped a wet blanket about you.

Clothes should be warm enough to defend us from cold, and large enough to let every movement be made with as much ease when they are on as when they are off.

Those whose employments are sedentary, especially hard students, who often neglect taking sufficient exercise, suffer extremely from the pressure of tight waistbands, garters, &c. which are the cause of many of the mischiefs that arise from long sitting, during which they should be loosened.

Braces have been generally considered a great improvement in modern dress, because they render the pressure of the waistband unnecessary, which, when extremely close, is certainly prejudicial; but we have always thought they have produced more inconvenience than they have removed; for if the inferior viscera get thereby more freedom of action, the superior suffer for it, and, moreover ruptures are much more frequent—the girdle which formerly prevented them being re-



moved; and, instead of that useful and partial horizontal pressure, in spite of the elastic springs which have been attached to the braces, the whole body is grievously oppressed by the vertical bands.

The best material for breeches is the elastic worsted stocking stuff.

Tight stays and braces obstruct the circulation of the blood, &c.; are the cause of many chronic complaints, and often create organic diseases.

### JOHANNA SOUTHCOTT'S FANATICS, AT ASHTON-UNDER-LINE.

A DEPLORABLE example of disgusting and degrading superstition, is recorded in the following inquest. The people of Ashton, it would seem, are as grossly fond of quackery in religious matters, as they are in medical. The history of this will hereafter scarcely be credited, as having occurred in our enlightened age. They talk of the superstition of the Irish, and their Hohenlohe miracles, but in the whole of that island such an instance of besotted credulity could not be found, arising out of so weak a source as a dropsical old mad woman.

#### *Inquest.*

On Saturday last, an inquest was held at the Colliers' Arms, in Hurst, in the parish of Ashton-under-line, on the body of Daniel Grimshaw, a child of 14 days old, who died on the Thursday previous, in consequence of having been circumcised by Mr. Henry Lees, of Ashton, about six days before.

It appears that, for some time past, the followers of Johanna Southcott, who are still very numerous in and near Ashton-under-line, have in that neighbourhood, and, we understand, in some others also, adopted the strange notion that they are bound to comply with the injunctions of the Mosaic law, respecting the rite of circumcision. All, or nearly all, the male believers in that neighbourhood, have consequently

submitted to the operation, and have had it performed upon their children, on the eighth day after birth, in obedience to the directions contained in the book of Genesis. This lamentable delusion, we understand, has prevailed in a limited degree for several years, though we are not aware that it is in any way inculcated in the writings of the prophetess. Of late it has made a very rapid progress.

The case excited a very intense interest in the neighbourhood; and there was a great crowd collected about the house where the inquest was held.

The first witness examined was Mr. Ogden, surgeon, of Ashton, who stated that he opened the body of the deceased on the day previous to the inquest. He found the contents of the thorax, abdomen, and head, perfectly healthy; but the body much emaciated. The witness then proceeded to describe the appearances exhibited by other parts. He had no doubt that the operation which had been performed on the child was the cause of its death. The wound had not been properly treated, and had mortified.

Robert Grimshaw, a collier, apparently not more than twenty years of age, and the father of the child, and his step mother, carried the child to the chapel to be circumcised; having been repeatedly directed to do so, by Mr. Lees, Mr. Swire, and Mr. Wroe. It is a law amongst the followers of Johanna Southcott, to take the male children on the eighth day after birth, to be baptized and circumcised: and accordingly, when the child was eight days old, it was taken to their chapel, and given into the hands of Mr. Henry Lees. Witness did not see the operation performed himself, having turned his head away. There were thirty or forty persons present, and during the operation, the musical instruments in the chapel were playing, "in order (as the witness said) that the cries of the child might not be heard by the world." Witness was circumcised himself about Whitsuntide last: no band played then;



there being no occasion for it. The instruments with which the operation is performed, are a knife, a pair of scissors, and a piece of silver, about the size of a crown piece, with a hole in it.

— Grimshaw, step-mother of the last witness, proved that, before the operation, she delivered the child to Mr. Henry Lees, and saw the instruments in his hands; but, standing at the head of the child, she did not exactly see the operation performed.

Two of the musicians of the chapel were then examined, but they did not throw any additional light on the transaction. Both stated that they had themselves submitted to the operation; one said that he was circumcised by a gentleman at Gravesend, whose name he would not mention. The other, in answer to a question from the Coroner, said, that he was circumcised at Bradford.

Joseph Grimshaw, the grandfather of the child, saw the operation performed by Mr. Henry Lees, and described the manner in which it was effected. Witness was circumcised himself; the only other person, except the child, whom he had ever seen circumcised, was Wroe, "our prophet." Just as the witness was about to go away, the Coroner said, "You seem to have a long beard? pray when were you shaved?"

Witness—About three weeks ago.

Coroner.—What is your reason for wearing it so long?

Witness (stroking his beard with great self-complacency)—To look like our forefathers of old, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

This was all the evidence adduced. The Coroner then said, that as the case was one of complete novelty, before calling on the Jury for their verdict, he should write to Mr. Raincock, the barrister, and take his opinion on the subject. To give time to do this, he should adjourn the inquest to the Friday following. Probably when they next met, there would be nothing for the Jury to do but to record their ver-

dict. The inquest was then adjourned.

On Friday, accordingly, the Jury re-assembled at three o'clock, at the Commercial Inn, in Ashton; when the Coroner produced and read an opinion which he had received from Mr. Raincock. It was, in effect, that if any person chose to perform such an operation as circumcision, unless it was surgically necessary, they must take the consequence upon themselves; and if death should ensue from their unskilfulness, they would, in his judgment, be guilty of manslaughter. The Learned Gentleman added, that there would perhaps be an exception in the case of Jews, who were expressly enjoined by their law to perform the rite; but as it was no part of the ordinances of the Christian Religion, no Christian would be justified in performing it.

The Jury deliberated for a short time, and then returned a verdict of "Manslaughter" against Henry Lees.

Mr. Lees was in the house, in the custody of the constable of Ashton; and will, of course, be committed to Lancaster to take his trial for the offence.

We understand that, since the fatal event which gave rise to this inquest, the rite of circumcision has been performed, in at least one instance, at Ashton.

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## CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

As I am a reader of your useful and spirited publication, you will perhaps consider as justifiable my intrusion upon your notice: who you are I know not: I am convinced you must be a man of talent: I appeal therefore to you as bearing justly that character, and as one who will duly appreciate the motives which induce me to address you. I am a graduate of an English University, and not totally unqualified to judge



of the general pretensions which men present to society; I do not give you my address since facts not names are the subjects upon which we are at issue; I was astonished beyond measure by your last Number. You have mentioned the name of Dr. Lang, in a manner which I conceive ungenerous and indefensible; you have associated his name with the names of a company of miserable and ignorant empirics, whom you have frequently exposed with just and memorable severity.

You must be aware that Dr. Lang is a man who has been regularly educated in his own country; that he is a man of scholar-like attainments, in every branch of knowledge, and that therefore he is deserving of different treatment. You are well aware too, that he never advertises; that he has never done any thing to make himself unfairly conspicuous; but that he pursues his course with that modesty and forbearance, which mark the man of real genius. You surely cannot seriously compare a man whose communications have been accepted, and published by the Medical Journal, and who is known and respected by some of the first scientific characters of the country, with such men as Eady, Jordan, &c. I do not lay the stress upon his publications, which have been brought forward under the sanction of men who can never be accused of empiricism; I contend, these prove him to be a man of literary attainments, and therefore deserving that courtesy which you have not shewn him. If you examine his private character, you will find he is universally considered as a man of honour and a gentleman. He has repeatedly offered to allow any medical man of respectability to remain with him during the time he is consulted by his patients; his practice exactly coincides with that adopted in Germany, and I need not enlarge upon the superior character which that nation possesses in science and philosophy.

I am not the friend of Dr. Lang: I have been his patient; gratitude to him has induced me to vindicate

his character; I have the highest esteem for you and your publication, but in this instance you have been really mistaken, and I do trust you will read this letter with candour, and believe that no rudeness of intention has dictated it. Consider it the appeal of one man to another, both I trust guided by the common principles of reason and good feeling. That you may long and successfully exert your powerful abilities, and that you may be prosperous and happy, is the sincere wish of

Yours very respectfully,

CANDIDUS.

P.S. Since I have written the above, I have examined your title page, which I had never before done; your name, I perceive, is published: I completely exonerate you of all bad intention since you thus became responsible for what is published. The paper in question is really clever, the sally about Somebody's outlandish medicine, or Syrup of Ressayari, or some name of that sort, is excellent, but to put such stuff into the mouth of Dr. Lang, if you knew him, you would be compelled in spite of yourself to acknowledge its impropriety. You or your correspondent must be terribly misinformed; do not take the word of an *anonymous* correspondent; make your enquiries, and I am convinced you cannot but feel (after you shall have made them) some compunction for having held up a worthy and clever man to ridicule.

[*We will enquire further.*—ED.]



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.

SIR,

LOOKING over your valuable Miscellany, I perceive that you have



not forgotten to bring before the public those infamous and impertinent quacks—the Jordans. These fellows are travelling in the midland counties, and are actually doing an extensive deal of business.

A friend of mine living at Nottingham (at which place they have been attending) called upon them for advice for a sore throat that he had by taking cold. They made him believe that he was ulcerated; they gave him what most of the quacks do in such cases, viz. forty grains of corrosive sublimate and two drachms of spirits of wine; twenty drops of which he was to take three times a day. He had not taken it many times, before he got into such a state, that the roof of his mouth was nearly destroyed. They had the audacity to charge him two guineas, which he foolishly paid, thinking, after seeing so many cures in their books, that they could cure him also. However, I have made up my determination that he shall bring an action against them, not for the sake of the money, but for the good of the public. As this epistle may do some good by putting it in your “Medical Adviser,” I beg that you will publish it next week.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

JAMES JOHNSON.

Leicester, Sept. 25, 1821.

[An action against Dr. J. in this case would do good.—ED.]

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

YOU deserve immortal praise, in a two-fold manner, for exposing those *inimicæ humani generis*:—firstly, In having set the example, and so continuing, in that ardent and beneficial manner; secondly, In having gained that public confidence by the mode in which the “MEDICAL ADVISER” is conducted, and, in some little, occasioning the dwindling decay of that odious word—quackery! Such, Mr. Editor, compels me to intrude both on yourself and Journal, if, by in-

serting this, my end is answered—i. e. *pro bono publico*.

Some time ago, a gentleman farmer from a village in Kent arrived in London, with the intention of having Sir A. Cooper’s advice respecting a particular case. He put up at one of those inns in the Borough. However, about this time an infamous firm (well known) advertised in the papers (cures of course). One of them having assumed the name of—in short—Sir A. Cooper, making the letter A. suit to all purposes. Truly he was a knight, but, as you have remarked before, a surreptitious one. The farmer asked the landlord the residence of Sir A. C. The landlord having seen these circulars, advertisements, &c. &c. he of course directed him—not an hundred yards from Charlotte-street M—l B—d. The farmer went—knocked and rang, and to his surprise a black fellow (who well knew trap) opened the door, with a bow and a scrape; and being asked if Sir Astley Cooper was within, he of course said, yes, Sir—walk in, Sir. The unthinking farmer was asked into a parlour, certainly furnished in style, but from roguery; when, after waiting for upwards of half an hour, in steept the Ethiopian pupil of the knight, who said that Sir A. Cooper was but this moment disengaged, and that the farmer had better come directly, as he has several patients to see this morning, and enumerated a few fictitious titles, i. e. Lords, M. P.s, and the hospital, &c. The farmer of course went—shewn into another room, where, for show, were many people, and suitable for their purpose—a good sized room, with four or five of those pests sitting round a table, with books open, setting forth the plates of skeletons, &c. Then the others said to the supposed Sir A. C. “Well, Sir A., we will leave you; and in case you want our attendance, we shall wait upon you.” “Thank you, doctors, thank you, (with a hem!). So, Sir, you wish to consult me,” (with a stare). F. “I do, Sir.” Sir A. C. “Be brief as possible, Sir, my time is precious, (and looking at his rings,



some two or three). Upon what case did you wish to consult me?" F. "I have for a long time been troubled with—so and so, &c." The quack felt his pulse—I doubt his capacity in such. Sir A. C. "I see all about it; this, Sir, is a serious—very serious case indeed; and unless you take great care, you cannot last long. But, Sir, the case requires immediate attendance; therefore, I had better hold a consultation, even my abilities are wavering as to this." The farmer assented. Sir A. C. rang the bell; in comes John the blackey. Sir A. C. "Tell the doctors that their attendance is immediately required." The doctors came, all wiggified, powdered, &c. and with a firm step, head erect, with bows, black silk stockings, gold buckles, &c., took their seats around the table, and looking at the patient; with a sort of morosity, for about fifteen minutes; then Sir A. C. rose, and said that "it was the opinion of his learned friends, the doctors, that yours is certainly a most serious case, and requires great attention on your part—collective wisdom on ours. But, Sir, we can give you hopes; but those quite conditionally. You will require some medicine, which undergoes a considerable process, and which is very expensive. I must advise you to take it punctually; and, Sir, our lowest fees will be to you but *twenty guineas!*" The farmer naturally paid the fees, took the medicine with him, and returned to the inn, where he mentioned the exorbitant fees to the landlord, in company with a medical student, who directly explained the trickery, and advised him instantler to have a warrant for the apprehension of the rogue; he did so, from — Chambers, Esq. Union Hall office. The gentleman was soon glad to make the affair up. I conclude by wishing you may insert it, as a sort of warning to such patients, i. e. to keep off.

I, then, Mr. Editor, shall be

Your obliged servant,

T. O.

*Anti-empiricus.*

Clerkenwell, Oct. 2, 1824.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Proposal to dissolve the penny-piece lately swallowed.*—We have lately found fault with Sir Astley's drop of the oil of croton and his adaptation of our forceps. We also promised a better plan of cure: thus it is,—“use appropriate doses of alkalies with emetics to obviate their effects upon the stomach. The copper will be acted upon, and gradually dissolved. This is a humble hint, let others improve upon it.”

*Manchester Quacks.*—The Manchester quacks are committing dreadful havoc. We request our humane correspondents of that town to send us up a line or two upon them. One of them the other day killed an old woman by corrosive sublimate. We regret that we have not been able to get his name.

*Mean practice in the Borough.*—We shamed one excrescence of the faculty out of the practice of putting “Midwife” over his door, and we wish we could so do with another who lives in the Borough; for the present he shall be nameless; but if it be not rubbed out, and properly substituted, we mean to “*shew him up.*” Even the term “*man-midwife*” is bad enough, and only done by fifth-rate surgeons; but “*midwife!*” O! ye old women! what won't ye do for a penny? Does not the world know what is meant by *accoucheur*? Who can doubt it, since every body has been at Paris? In the name of pounds, shillings, and pence, ye fishers for cases, if ye do not think the term sufficiently “*catching,*” why, put *lady-surgeons* at once—lay down the “*wives.*”



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

H. R. leave off the sulphur, or take it only now and then; you should take also for a week or two, the decoction of bark, with a little diluted sulphuric acid, and keep the bowels regular by rhubarb and magnesia.

P. S. must go on as before.

J. M\*\*\*, COMMERCIAL ROAD. You do right in wearing the plaster—To guard against effects of asthma, you must keep from cold; and to palliate, you may take when it is severe a cup of very strong coffee, and one of the asthmatic pills given in this number.

J. B.—Leeches, or bleeding from the arm will serve, but he must take five grains of blue pill every night for four nights; and every morning for the same time, two or three drachms of Epsom salts.

The writer of the letter dated Bermondsey, who states that he labours under nervous debility, with pain in the chest, phlegm, &c. and that he takes a mixture of camomile and horehound, should take daily ten grains of rhubarb, and ten of cream of tartar; he should take also in the morning, a table-spoonful of decoction of bark, with a few drops of diluted sulphuric acid.

GARRAT'S "*Aromatic Snuff*," is a "*blackguard*" humbug.

W. W. P. P. must use a warm bath frequently at night. Let him sit in a slipper bath for a considerable time every night for a week.

A CAMBRIDGE UNDER GRADUATE will agree with us on this principle, that truly *medical* cases belong to the *physician*: and Hydrocephalus is of that class. We speak generally.

Mr. H——s, Cheltenham, should have had a letter, but that he did not say where to address; if he writes again, and recapitulates the case, he shall have our advice immediately.

AN ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBER.—A disease of the liver *can* be cured; but is it so? Send us a description of the symptoms, particularly, and we will in our next number remark at some length upon the disease.

VERITAS has come to hand.

W. M. O. is right in leaving off mercury.

EDWARD OF CHELSEA must trust to regimen, and not to medicine. Let him write to us in a week.

A WOMAN OF THIRTY-FIVE should leave off those abominable "*female pills*." Her lungs are affected; we will write to her.

A. X. has obliged us.

The examination of the first candidate for a diploma before the *new college of physicians* shall soon appear. Dr. Eady, voted for his rejection, because he said he would prefer *silk* to *thread*, in making ligatures. If possible we will give the report next week.



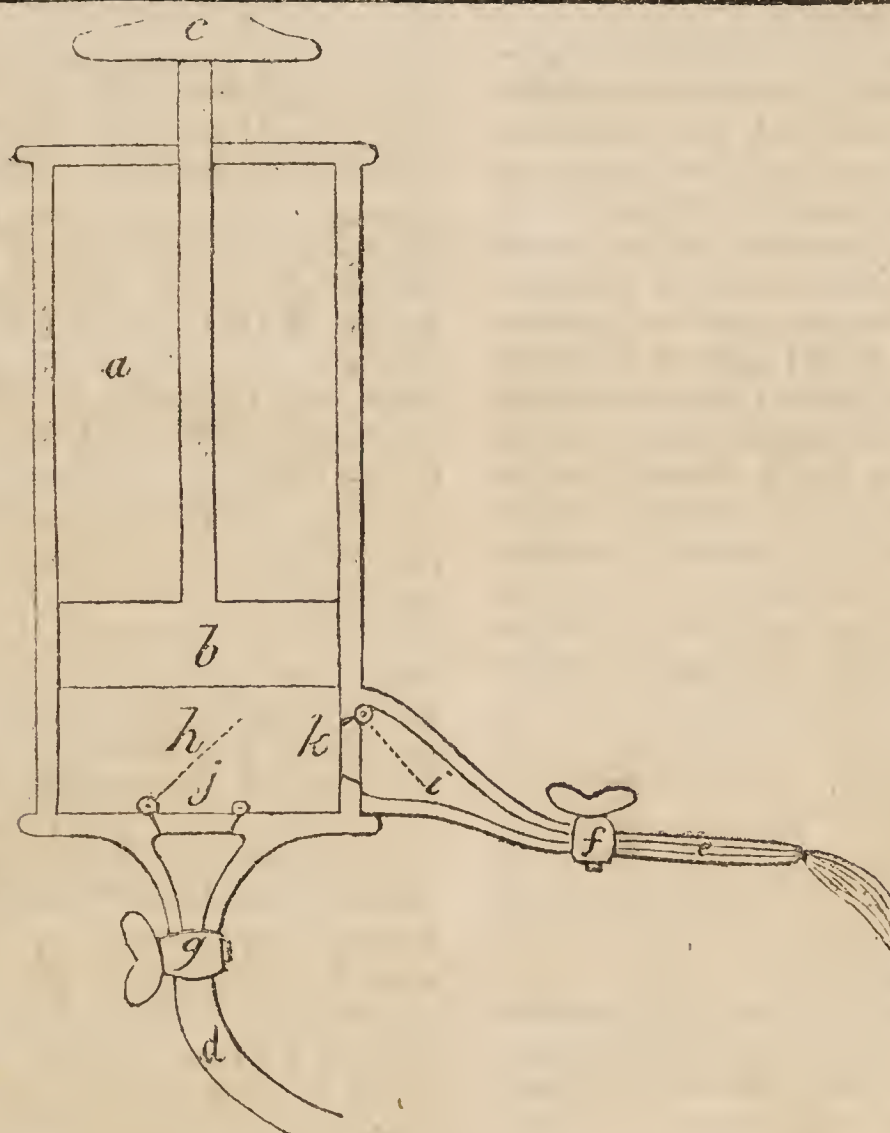
THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
 AND  
**GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.**

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



IMPROVEMENT OF JUKES' POISON-EXTRACTING PUMP.

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## EXPLANATION OF THE PLATE.

PASSING through the Strand, a few days ago, I saw, in a surgeons' instrument maker's window, the newly invented Pump for extricating Poisons from the Stomach. The principle of it is admirable, though, like most new inventions, it is, I think, susceptible of improvement.

In the one I saw, the communication between the pipe leading to the stomach and what I shall call the ejectment pipe, with the body of the syringe, is cut off alternately by means of *two* cocks. Now, unless the syringe is worked by at least two persons, this must cause a great inconvenience to the patient from the time the pipe remains in the stomach; but, by employing two small valves instead of the cocks, it might easily be managed by one person only, and the time lost in opening the cocks saved. The following is a short description of the instrument, with the manner in which I propose that the valves should be placed:—

*a* is the cylinder.

*b* the sucker.

*c* the handle.

*d* the flexible pipe leading to the stomach.

*e* the ejectment pipe.

*f* and *g* the two cocks as used at present.

*j* and *k* the two valves, with hinges, to allow them to move to the dotted lines, *h*, *i*, and there stop them.

From the above sketch it will easily be seen that, in raising the sucker, it will open the valve *j*, and at the same time keep the valve, *k*, firm in its place, and that, in pressing it downwards, the contrary will be the case; by which means the trouble with the cocks will be avoided. F. H.

*Perry-street St. Pancras.*

P. S. I conceive this instrument might also be advantageously employed in the recovery of persons apparently drowned.

[*This improvement will be of great advantage.—ED.*]

## CONSUMPTION.

*From the "London Medical Report."*

THOSE predisposed to consumption have usually light or reddish hair, a smooth, fair, thin skin, a very clear ruddy complexion, large bright blue eyes, very white teeth, a long neck, narrow chest, and high shoulders. They are almost always of a sanguine temperament, keenly alive to all the more amiable feelings of our nature, acute, generally quick and lively in their mental conceptions, and irritable in their dispositions. When these features and characteristics, therefore, appear in a young person of either sex, in good health, the greatest care should be taken to preserve them in that state of health which they then enjoy. Sudden changes of temperature, especially when the body is heated, should be guarded against, by avoiding currents of air, and by covering the surface with warm clothing, particularly upon the chest; crowded assemblies, the routs, and the "at homes," as they are termed, of a London winter, should be shunned as a pestilence; and waiting in the lobby of a theatre, or the opera-house, or even in that of a private house, after quitting a hot room, until a carriage draw up, unless the head, chest, and every part of the body be muffled up, must be regarded as treading upon the confines of the grave. Young persons with such habits should also be led to adopt early hours, both for retiring to rest and of rising in the morning; to take daily exercise in the open air, and, if possible, moderate horse exercise; and their diet should be of a mild, but nutritious and invigorating quality. But besides sudden alternations of temperature, other causes concur to excite consumption in the predisposed. Thus, it is induced in those whose employments lead them to be frequently in situations where the air is loaded with dust; and thence we may infer, that dancing on a carpet and on chalked floors is more injurious than on a clean boarded floor. It is a curious fact, that before the streets of London were paved and watered, the number of consumptive cases was five to four, compared to those of the present period. How far



the acknowledged improvement of Mr. M'Adam may cause a retrogression in this respect, if great care be not taken to water the roads in summer, time must determine. Even the most enviable accomplishments kindle the latent flame of consumption in the predisposed, when the frame of body is delicate. Hence a young girl, with the physiognical characteristics of the consumptive habit, should not be permitted to use great exertion in singing, however flattering her talents in this delightful art may be to her own vanity and the pride of a doating parent. The mind, finally, should be so regulated as to be kept in an equable and sober tone; for experience has demonstrated, that much mental excitement, particularly when that is connected with the passions of love and of ambition, has been productive of consumption; and from this cause we have to lament the loss of some of those individuals who, for splendour of talents and extraordinary acquisitions at a very early period of life, have occasionally appeared like comets in the intellectual world, to display the extent of the capacity and the power of the human mind.

If, in spite of these precautions, the disease make its attack, the appearance of the first symptoms should be the signal for alarm; and the best medical advice procured. It is in this stage only that a cure can be confidently anticipated. But too often, from the slight degree of languor and almost imperceptible change in the breathing which attend it; and from the cough occurring but seldom and without expectoration, the malady runs on to its second stage, and is established in the system of the patient before its existence be even suspected. Far be it from us to comment, in this place, on the medical management of so formidable a disease; but we may be allowed strenuously to urge the patients to shun quackery in all its forms of balsams, lotions, and lozenges; and to remark, that much depends on themselves and their friends. The most judicious plan of cure may be rendered abortive by inattention to the regulations prescribed by the physician, and by improprieties or irregularities in diet and regimen.

If we may, however, presume to offer a few hints, we would recommend that, as in the commencement of the disease the symptoms are of an inflammatory nature, the diet should be mild, and ought to consist chiefly of milk and well-boiled vegetables, or farinaceous matters, such as sago, arrow-root, and the preparations of Iceland live-root, from which the greater part of the bitter principle has been extracted. When asses milk can be obtained, it is to be preferred to every other kind of milk; but if this cannot be readily procured, a good substitute for it is an admixture of soda water and hot cow's milk, moderately sweetened. The periods of taking food should not be so distant as in a state of health, but the quantity taken at one time should be very small. As the disease advances, and the debility increases, the diet is required to be of a more generous kind; and it is in this stage that the beef-steaks, the porter, and the gymnastic exercises, which are prescribed by Dr. Stewart, are likely to prove serviceable, particularly if the disease be connected, as occasionally occurs, with affections of the digestive organs. The atmosphere in which a consumptive resides should be, in all stages of the disease, mild, dry, and equable in respect of temperature; and if this cannot be secured in the country of his residence, it should either be sought for early abroad, or produced artificially at home; in which case, the patient should be confined to one suite of apartments during the last of the autumnal months, the whole of the winter, and the first of the spring months. He should, in truth, appear and disappear with the swallows. The exercise of the consumptive should be moderate and regular, and be taken in the morning, when the strength is most capable of being exerted without exhaustion. Carriage exercise, riding on horseback, sailing, and swinging, are the kinds of exercise best adapted for the consumptive.

*[We extract this article because we are now treating on the disease, and because it contains good advice.—*  
ED.]



## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 201.)

SHORTLY before death the extremities become cold. In some cases a delirium precedes that event, and continues until life is extinguished.

The cause of hectic fever is generally supposed to be the absorption of vitiated purulency, but possibly it may proceed from other causes. It appears, however, that hectic fever generally attends an extensive suppuration, and it is of little consequence whether it be occasioned by the absorption of pus, or by the inflammation which precedes the suppuration.

As an expectoration of mucus from the lungs may possibly be mistaken for purulent matter, and may thereby give us reason to suspect that the patient labours under a confirmed phthisis, when he really does not, it may not be amiss to point out a sure criterion, by which we shall always be able to distinguish mucus from pus. The physical world are indebted to the late Mr. Charles Darwin for the discovery, who has directed the experiment to be made in the following manner:—

Let the expectorated matter be dissolved in sulphuric acid and in caustic lixivium, and add pure water to both solutions. If there is a fair precipitation in each, it is a certain sign of the presence of pus; but if there is not a precipitation in either, it is certainly mucus.

The oxymurias hydrargyri he found to coagulate mucus, but not pus.

Sir Everard Home, in his Dissertation on the Properties of Pus, informs us also of a decisive mode of distinguishing accurately between this and animal mucus.

Pus, he observes, is of the consistence of cream, its colour is whitish, and it has a mawkish taste. When cold, is inodorous; when warm, it has a peculiar smell. Examined by the microscope, it consists of semi-opaque globules, and a transparent colourless fluid, which is coagulated by muriate of ammonia. Pus may be evaporated to dryness without coagulating. Its specific gravity is

greater than that of water. It does not putrefy readily; nor is it easily diffused in cold water, but in warm water it is speedily diffused, and remains so after it cools. Animal mucus, and all chemical combinations of animal substances, appear in the microscope to be made up of flakes. This property was first noticed by the late Mr. John Hunter.

Pulmonary consumption is in every case to be considered as attended with much danger; but it is more so when it proceeds from tubercles than when it arises in consequence either of hæmoptysis, or pneumonic suppuration. In the last instance the risk will be greater where the abscess breaks inwardly, and gives rise to empyema, than when its contents are discharged by the mouth. Even cases of this nature have nevertheless been known to terminate in immediate death. The impending danger is generally to be judged of, however, by the violence of the hectic symptoms; but more particularly by the fetor of the expectoration, the degree of emaciation and debility, the colliquative sweats, œdema of the legs, aphthæ, and diarrhœa.

An insulated ulcer of the lungs, whether arising from inflammation of the bronchial membrane, the rupture of a blood vessel, or deep-seated suppuration, may, and does indeed sometimes, even under circumstances apparently hopeless, admit of a cure; but that a recovery can be permanently established when the substance of the lungs is studded by tubercles in a state of suppuration, or proceeding rapidly thereto, would require more confidence in the power of nature and art than they are entitled to. The unkindly nature and secretion of these ulcers, their number, their inaccessibility to any direct application, the impossibility of excluding the atmospheric air from them, or obviating its influence, and lastly, of preserving the morbid lungs in a state of quietude, constitute a chain of circumstances through which the arm of science, however ably directed, will never break.

Phthisis pulmonalis has in many



cases been found to be considerably retarded in its progress by pregnancy, but when this is over, is hastened to a rapid termination; and in a few has been alleviated by an attack of mania. Some people get a little better in summer, and relapse in winter.

The morbid appearance most frequently to be met with on the dissections of those who die of phthisis, is the existence of tubercles in the cellular substance of the lungs. These are small tumours, which have the appearance of indurated glands, are of different sizes, and are often found in clusters. Their firmness is usually in proportion to their size: and when laid open in this state, they are of a white colour, and of a consistence nearly approaching to cartilage. Although indolent at first, they at length become inflamed, and are at last changed into little abscesses, or vomicæ, which breaking, and pouring their contents into the bronchiæ, give rise to purulent expectoration, and thus lay the foundation of phthisis.

Such tubercles, or vomicæ, are most usually situated at the upper and back part of the lungs; but in some instances they occupy the outer part, and then adhesions to the pleura are often formed.

When the disease is partial, only about a fourth of the upper and posterior part of the lungs is usually found diseased; but in some cases life has been protracted till not one-twentieth part of them appeared, on dissection, fit for performing their function. A singular observation, confirmed by the morbid collections of anatomists, is, that the left lobe is much oftener affected than the right.

Experience having taught that it is only in the early stage of phthisis that remedies are likely to be employed with success, we ought by all means to pay the greatest attention to the first appearance of the symptoms.

Where a spitting of blood occurs in a person of phthisical habit, or in one born of phthisical parents, we are to endeavour by every possible means to prevent ulceration from

taking place, which is to be done by employing the means for moderating the hæmorrhage, and likewise preventing any future return of it, as advised under the head of Hæmoptysis; and these means and precautions ought to be continued, and extended beyond the period at which phthisis proves chiefly fatal, which is usually between the age of twenty and thirty.

The phthisis which ensues from pulmonic inflammation proceeding on to suppuration, is only to be prevented by pursuing the means that will procure a re-solution of such inflammation. Of these particular mention has been made in the cure of peripneumony, to which head I beg leave to refer the reader.

When a person of a phthisical habit, or born of parents who have had the same disposition, is about the age of twenty, or sooner, attacked in the spring of the year, or summer, with the symptoms which have been enumerated in the first stage of the disease, and this even in the very slightest degree, we have just grounds to apprehend that tubercles have either formed, or are about to form, in the lungs: in such a case we are to exert our utmost endeavours to prevent their formation, and consequent inflammation and suppuration; for by so doing the disease may be kept under for many years, if not entirely subdued.

To effect these purposes, we must have recourse to a strict pursuance of the antiphlogistic plan, such as bleeding from the arm, as well as topically from the chest, by means either of leeches or cupping, keeping the body open with gentle laxatives, and the use of a spare regimen.

The propriety of the first of these remedies, viz. blood-letting, has, however, of late years been much disputed, and it has indeed fallen a good deal into discredit. Blood-letting, and the rest of the antiphlogistic plan, may formerly have been carried much too far in many cases, I readily admit; but certain it is, that for some years past the opposite system has been carried to an equally hurtful excess.



In the inflammatory and first stage of phthisis, where the patient complains of a difficulty of breathing with pain in his breast or side, has hot restless nights, with a hard contracted pulse, and a cough, there can be no doubt but that bleeding may be of infinite service, provided the quantity taken away bears a just proportion to his strength and habit, and to the severity of the symptoms; but having recourse to it under the stage of ulceration, where the expectoration has become purulent, and where great debility prevails, with night-sweats, and repeating the operation frequently, even in small quantities at a time, as was formerly practised, must evidently prove highly injurious. At an early period, we have in view to procure a re-solution of the inflamed tubercles; but in confirmed phthisis this hope no longer exists.

( To be Continued.)

## APHORISMS OF HIPPOCRATES.

### MORTIFICATION AND GANGRENE.

HIP. Those in whom the brain is suffocated, die within three days; if they escape those, they recover.

COOK. Understand only such a corruption of the brain, as is at hand by reason of great inflammation.

HIP. The bones being affected if the flesh be livid, it is ill.

COOK. Because it shews an extinction of native heat, by which the lively colour of the part fades, and the flesh thereabouts is dissolved into filth.

HIP. An abscess comes from the corruption of the bones.

COOK. It may be taken for a gangrene that fouls the bone laying bare, for which there is nothing better to secure it than powder of orris.

### CANCER.

Such as have hidden, or not ulcerated cancers, had better not cure them; for, healed, they quickly die; not cured, they live longer.

COOK. Because those medicine that mollify procure putrefaction yet such things as ease pain may be used; as also purging.

### BELONGING TO FORMER HEADS; AS FEVERS.

HIP. It is not absurd to weep and shed tears in fevers, and other diseases, voluntarily: but to weep against the will, is very absurd and inconvenient.

If one have convulsions and cramps, a fever coming dissolves them.

COOK. Because the fever dissipates the matter, and confirms the parts, for it concocts crude juices.

HIP. Convulsion and vehement pains about the bowels in sharp fevers, are ill.

COOK. Because they succeed a fever, it is deadly; and they do shew the vehemency of the heat, which thus affects.

### PURGING,

*Which should have been before.*

HIP. Their bodies are to be made moist beforehand with plenty of blood, and with ease and rest, who, taking a potion of hellebore, do heavily and painfully vomit.

COOK. This shews how the body is to be prepared before the white hellebore is to be given, which is to be with great caution; it is to be given to those young and strong, before taking good store of fat veal broth; but other vomits are more safe.

### EXTERNAL USE.

HIP. Coldness of the extreme parts in sharp diseases, is ill.

COOK. That is, the feet, hands, nose, and ears. The coldness being caused either by reason of internal inflammation, whose heat is so vehement, that it draws all the blood to it like a cupping-glass; or it is procured through a dissolution of the natural heat, which being very little, cannot extend itself to the exterior parts; and both these are mortal, and therefore ill: yet if heat return again, it only presages a good crisis.



## TOM PAINE'S OPINIONS ON DREAMS.

[*In extracting the following from Tom Paine, we beg our readers to hold us totally free from mixing with his religious opinions. The extract is curious, and possesses some forcible reasons in favour of phrenology.*]

IN order to understand the nature of dreams, or of that which passes in ideal vision during a state of sleep, it is first necessary to understand the composition and decomposition of the human mind.

The three great faculties of the mind are Imagination, Judgment, and Memory. Every action of the mind comes under one or other of these faculties. In a state of wakefulness, as in the day time, these three faculties are all active; but that is seldom the case in sleep, and never perfectly; and this is the cause that our dreams are not so regular and rational as our waking thoughts.

The seat of that collection of powers or faculties, that constitute what is called the mind, is in the brain. There is not, and cannot be, any visible demonstration of this anatomically, but accidents happening to living persons shew it to be so. An injury done to the brain by a fracture of the skull will sometimes change a wise man into a childish idiot,—a being without a mind. But so careful has nature been of that *sanctum sanctorum* of man,—the brain, that of all the external accidents to which humanity is subject, this happens the most seldom. But we often see it happening by long and habitual intemperance.

Whether those three faculties occupy distinct apartments of the brain, is known only to that Almighty Power that formed and organised it. We can see the external effects of muscular motion in all the members of the body, though its *primum mobile*, or first moving cause, is unknown to man. Our external motions are sometimes the effect of intention, and sometimes not. If

we are sitting and intend to rise, or standing and intend to sit, or to walk, the limbs obey that intention as if they heard the order given. But we make a thousand motions every day, and that as well waking as sleeping, that have no prior intention to direct them. Each member acts as if it had a will or mind of its own. Man governs the whole when he pleases to govern, but in the interims the several parts, like little suburbs, govern themselves without consulting the sovereign.

But all these motions, whatever be the generating cause, are external and visible. But with respect to the brain, no ocular observation can be made upon it. All is mystery; all is darkness in that womb of thought.

Whether the brain is a mass of matter in continual rest; whether it has a vibrating pulsative motion, or a heaving and falling motion, like matter in fermentation; whether different parts of the brain have different motions according to the faculty that is employed, be it the imagination, the judgment, or the memory, man knows nothing of. He knows not the cause of his own wit; his own brain conceals it from him.

Comparing invisible by visible things, as metaphysical can sometimes be compared to physical things, the operations of these distinct and several faculties have some resemblance to the mechanism of a watch. The main spring which puts all in motion, corresponds to the imagination; the pendulum or balance, which corrects and regulates that motion, corresponds to the judgment; and the hand and dial, like the memory, records the operations.

Now, in proportion as these several faculties sleep, slumber, or keep awake, during the continuance of a dream, in that proportion will the dream be reasonable or frantic, remembered or forgotten.

If there is any faculty in mental man that never sleeps, it is that volatile thing, the imagination: the case is different with the judgment and the memory. The sedate and sober constitution of the judgment



easily disposes it to rest; and as to the memory, it records in silence, and is active only when it is called upon.

That the judgment soon goes to sleep may be perceived by our sometimes beginning to dream before we are fully asleep ourselves. Some random thought runs in the mind, and we start, as it were, into recollection that we are dreaming between sleeping and waking.

If the judgment sleeps whilst the imagination keeps awake, the dream will be a riotous assemblage of misshapen images and ranting ideas, and the more active the imagination is, the wilder the dream will be. The most inconsistent and the most impossible things will appear right; because that faculty, whose province it is to keep order, is in a state of absence. The master of the school is gone out, and the boys are in an uproar.

If the memory sleeps, we shall have no other knowledge of the dream than that we have dreamt, without knowing what it was about. In this case it is sensation, rather than recollection, that acts. The dream has given us some sense of pain or trouble, and we feel it as a hurt, rather than remember it as a vision.

If memory only slumbers, we shall have a faint remembrance of the dream, and after a few minutes it will sometimes happen that the principal passages of the dream will occur to us more fully. The cause of this is, that the memory will sometimes continue slumbering or sleeping after we are awake ourselves, and that so fully, that it may, and sometimes does happen, that we do not immediately recollect where we are, nor what we have been about, or have to do. But when the memory starts into wakefulness, it brings the knowledge of these things back upon us like a flood of light, and sometimes the dream with it.

But the most curious circumstance of the mind in a state of dream, is the power it has to become the agent of every person, character, and thing of which it dreams. It carries on conversation with several, asks ques-

tions, hears answers, gives and receives information, and it acts all these parts itself.

But however various and eccentric the imagination may be in the creation of images and ideas, it cannot supply the place of memory, with respect to things that are forgotten when we are awake. For example, if we have forgotten the name of a person, and dream of seeing him, and asking him his name, he cannot tell it, for it is ourselves asking ourselves the question.

But though the imagination cannot supply the place of real memory, it has the wild faculty of counterfeiting memory. It dreams of persons it never knew, and talks with them as if it remembered them as old acquaintances. It relates circumstances that never happened, and tells them as if they had happened. It goes to places that never existed, and knows where all the streets and houses are as if it had been there before. The scenes it creates often appear as scenes remembered. It will sometimes act a dream within a dream, and in the delusion of dreaming, tell a dream it never dreamed, and tell it as if it was from memory. It may also be remarked, that the imagination in a dream has no idea of time, *as time*. It counts only by circumstances; and if a succession of circumstances pass in a dream that would require a great length of time to accomplish them, it will appear to the dreamer that a length of time equal thereto has passed also. As this is the state of the mind in dream, it may rationally be said that every person is mad once in twenty-four hours, for were he to act in the day as he dreams in the night, he would be confined for a lunatic. In a state of wakefulness, those three faculties being all active, and acting in unison, constitute the rational man. In dreams it is otherwise, and therefore that state which is called insanity appears to be no other than a disunion of those faculties, and a cessation of the judgment, during wakefulness, that we so often experience during sleep; and idiocy, into which some persons have fallen, is that cessation of all the



faculties of which we can be sensible when we happen to wake before our memory.

#### QUALITIES AND MEDICAL PROPERTIES OF TURPENTINES.

ALTHOUGH these are produced from different species of the pine tribe, and one sort from the *Pistacia Terebinthus*, yet all of them possess the same general and chemical properties. They have a peculiar, somewhat aromatic odour, and a warm, pungent, bitterish taste; are semi-fluid, tenacious, translucent, combine readily with fixed oils, and are inflammable, burning with a white flame and much smoke. Alcohol and ether dissolve them entirely, leaving the impurities; but water takes up only their flavour. When distilled with water a volatile oil comes over, and resin remains in the retort; the turpentine being compounds of these two substances. But each sort of turpentine has characteristic qualities which require to be noticed; 1. Common turpentine has a strong, somewhat fragrant odour, and a bitter, disagreeable taste; its consistence is greater than that of honey; its colour is dirty yellow, and it is more opaque than the other sorts. 2. Venice turpentine is more fluid, having the consistence of new honey, a yellowish colour, and is less unpleasant to the smell and taste than the common. 3. Canadian balsam (or more correctly turpentine) has a strong not disagreeable odour, and a bitterish taste; is transparent, whitish, and has the consistence of Copaiva balsam. 4. Chian or Cyprus turpentine is very fragrant, but almost insipid, nearly transparent, thick, tenacious, and of a whitish colour.

Oil of Turpentine has a strong, penetrating, peculiar odour, and a hot, pungent, bitterish taste. It is perfectly limpid and colourless: extremely light, volatile, and inflammable; and dissolves completely in six parts of sulphuric ether; but although hot alcohol readily dissolves it, yet it again

separates in drops as the spirit cools, and is very sparingly soluble in the cold in the strongest alcohol. In all other respects it agrees with the other essential volatile oils. A stream of oxymuriatic gas passed through it converts it into a yellow resin.

Tar has a strong odour, familiar to every body; a resinous, subacid, bitterish taste; and a coarse, thick consistence, with a deep brown colour approaching to blackness, derived from the charring of the wood during its formation. It consists principally of empyreumatic oil, resin, and acetic acid; is partially soluble in water; and inspissated by boiling in pitch.

Yellow and white resin are varieties of the same substance. They are nearly inodorous when cold, but heated emit a slight terebinthinate odour. Their taste is slightly acid and bitterish; and the colour a dull whitish yellow, or a greenish yellow. The mass of resin is semipellucid, brittle, breaks with a true vitreous fracture, and adheres moderately to the fingers. Its specific gravity is 1,0742. It melts when heated, then inflames, and burns with a yellow flame giving out much smoke. It is insoluble in water, but entirely soluble in alcohol, ether, the fixed oils, and the alkalies. The acids also dissolve resin, and convert it into artificial tannin; with the exception of the acetic acid, which only dissolves it. When sulphuric acid is employed, charcoal, in the proportion of forty-three per cent. of the resin acted on, is produced. The resin of the Norway spruce possesses nearly the same properties. It is solid, brittle, in tears, of a brownish yellow colour on the outside, and internally white; and admits a very agreeable odour when burning.

Burgundy pitch has a terebinthinate odour and taste, is brittle, opaque, and of a light yellow, reddish-brown colour. It softens moderately in the heat of the hand, appears unctuous, and has a considerable degree of tenacity.

The turpentine and their essential oil are stimulant, cathartic, diuretic, and anthelmintic; and externally rubefacient. Of those which I have de-



scribed, the Venice and Canada turpentine are more generally employed for internal purposes; the common turpentine proving offensive to most stomachs, and the Chian not being easily procured. The ancients were well acquainted with the medicinal properties of turpentine; and besides the diseases for which they are prescribed by the moderns, gave them liberally in coughs and all pulmonary affections. Turpentine seems to derive their virtues from the oil they contain. When swallowed, they produce a sensation of warmth in the stomach, at first increasing the quickness and force of the pulse, but afterwards diminishing it; and if the dose be large, some degree of nausea is excited, with slight vertigo, and soon, but not always, a copious discharge from the bowels; but if the dose be small, they act chiefly upon the kidneys. The cathartic operation of large doses of the oil, in particular, seems to counteract the determination to the kidneys, which smaller doses produce; for in doses of even an ounce and two ounces, no other effect on the urinary organs is perceived than the violet smell of the urine. The odour of violets is produced by the oil, even when it is not taken into the stomach, or rubbed upon the skin; for if a quantity of oil of turpentine be poured on a table in a room, this odour will be perceived in the urine of any one who remains in the room for half an hour, or even a shorter time. Turpentine is chiefly prescribed in gleet, leucorrhœa, mucous obstructions of the urinary passages, and calculous affections; but in the latter cases their stimulant operation on the kidneys requires that they be given with caution. The oil is justly regarded as a useful remedy in lumbago, sciatica, and some other varieties of chronic rheumatism, particularly when combined with the cinchona bark. Dr. Copland, in a valuable paper on terebinthinous remedies, recommends the oil strongly in the hæmorrhagiæ, particularly in atonic epistaxis and hæmoptysis. He also confirms Dr. Percival's statement of its efficacy in epilepsy; and extols its powers in infantile convulsions,

arising from a disordered state of the alimentary canal. He states some cases of ovarian dropsy, in which the effects of the oil were such as to recommend its employment in incipient cases of this disease; and, also, in other dropsies, not even excepting hydrocephalus. For the expulsion of the tape-worm the power of the oil of turpentine is now generally known. It differs in its action from the other remedies which have been employed against tape-worm, by killing the worm before it throws it out; and thence is more permanently useful. Neither wine nor spirits should be drunk during the use of oil; the usual quantity of food should be diminished: and its use should be immediately discontinued, if an eruption resembling eczema appear on the skin; which is apt to arise from its employment in some habits. As local stimulants, turpentine and the oil of turpentine have been efficaciously exhibited in the form of enema, in cases of colic, obstinate costiveness, and ascarides. The oil is useful when dropped into the ear in deafness from defect of wax; and is an excellent addition to embrocations in acute rheumatism, bruises, and paralyse of the extremities. As a discutient it is applied to indolent tumours, and is a useful primary application to burns.

Turpentine is given in doses of from 5 to 15 grains, either made into pills with powdered liquorice root, or diffused in water by means of almonds, mucilage, or yolk of egg. The dose of the oil may be from 10 to 30 drops, to produce its diuretic effect: but in doses of from 1 drachm to 2, its effects are more general on the system. In these doses, it may be combined with aromatics and spices, and rubbed up with mucilage or honey. Dr. Copland recommends the addition of the tincture of capsicum, for correcting the nauseating and unpleasant effects which the oil frequently produces on the stomach. For the expulsion of tænia it is necessary to give from one ounce to three of the oil, repeated every eight hours till the worm be thrown out: and in these large doses it is more easily taken when exhibited uncom-



bined, or when merely floated upon water with the addition of a drop or two of any aromatic oil. If it do not operate by stool in four or five hours after it has been taken, a dose of castor oil should be exhibited.

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#### *Medical Properties of Tar.*

Tar is stimulant, diuretic, and sudorific; and externally detergent. As an external application it has been found beneficial in porrigo scutulata, foul ulcers, and some other cutaneous diseases.

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#### *Medical Properties of Burgundy Pitch.*

The resins and Burgundy pitch are adapted for external use only; the former entering into the composition of some ointments and plasters, the latter being used as a rubefacient plaster. It excites some degree of inflammation, and a serious exudation from the part over which it is applied, without raising the cuticle. It is used in cases of catarrh, pertussis and dyspnoea; and seems to be chiefly serviceable from the length of time its action can be continued.

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#### *A hint on White Swelling of the Knee-joint.*

LET it be observed, that early attention to this disease, will prevent in almost every case, its dreadful consequences. When the pain commences in the knee, a blister should be put on, and strict rest observed. If the pain continue after the blister be healed, not a moment should be lost in putting in a caustic issue. The very application of the caustic we have known to cure the disease; but it is indispensable that the patient should not stand a moment on the limb.

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### CIRCUMCISION.

THIS practice is decidedly injurious. Although the Jews, in the time of Moses, created the custom from a wise principle, and embodied it in

their laws, it should be no reason why, at this time, and in an European climate, it should be observed. The original intention of circumcision was to guard against disease: and it gives us strong reason to think that *lues venerea* is not of so modern an origin as the historians of that complaint set forth. The Jews in the time of Moses lived under a parching sun; their habits were disposed to sloth, and were obliged to be closely watched by the laws, to prevent disease; for which reason, no doubt, swines flesh was forbidden, and circumcision practised. The elders of the Jews perhaps had another reason for circumcision,—namely, to blunt the future passions; which we have no doubt it does.

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### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

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#### *Carrying a Bone in the Pocket to prevent Cramp.*

This is not so bad a remedy as at first may be imagined. Cramp, in many cases, is brought on and increased by the imagination, and this charm tends to make the mind easy; but now that we have explained, we fear that we have broken the charm.

---

#### *Carrying Sulphur in the Pocket to prevent or cure Rheumatism.*

This can have no effect, except to blacken and disfigure the watch, or any other metal about the person.

---

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

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#### *An occasional Draught to promote Appetite.*

Take of sulphuric acid five drops, in a glass of cold water.

---

#### *Syrup for Hoarseness.*

Of syrup of squills, an ounce,  
Of syrup of saffron, two ounces,  
Of lemon-juice, a table-spoonful.  
Mix, and take a tea-spoonful occasionally.



## ASTHMATIC CASE.

—

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I AM a young man aged twenty-five, confined to the desk, or mostly so, and wish to ask your advice under the following circumstances.

My grandfather was, and my father at present is, afflicted with asthma.—at least so I take it; it shews itself in this way:—in the morning, and perhaps once again during the day, the breathing is oppressed, and this continues until by expectoration the lungs are relieved from a phlegm generally dark-coloured; afterwards the breathing is easy. In this way I am troubled with a collection upon my lungs; but when I am clear of the mucus, I breathe perfectly easy. At times, when I have a cold, I am continually barking, which is very tedious.

Now, Sir, as you perceive my case is hereditary, and, as I am led to believe, cure is impossible, could I presume to trouble you to notice my case, though I ought not to take it to myself alone, for I think in doing so, you will be of great service to hundreds who are similarly situated.

My digestion is good, as also is my appetite, and I am free from pain; but still I think, unless I adopt some *system to live upon*, I shall get into premature old age. This system or plan, or whatever else you may deem proper, you will be so kind as to suggest in such way as you think best.

I ought to remark, at least it does so appear to me, that the complaint does not arise from any malformation *outwardly* visible. Your very kind attention to correspondents leads me to hope you will not pass this unnoticed from

## A REGULAR READER.

[We publish the foregoing case, because we think it is that of thousands, particularly at this season of the year. It is confirmed asthma in a mild form. We will not enter into causes at this time, but recommend the following simple plan:—Let the patient keep as much as possible in the same temperature of body, by attending to the regu-

lation of dress and bed-clothes;—let him also never overload the stomach, live in as clear air as possible, keep the breast well covered, and a warm plaster upon it constantly. Whenever the symptoms of the disease become worse, he should take one of the asthmatic pills of our last Number, page 265, twice or thrice a-day for two or three days, or occasionally vary it with the following

*Mixture for Asthma.*

Of lac ammoniac, four ounces,  
Syrup of squills, half an ounce,  
Infusion of senna, half an ounce,  
Manna, half an ounce,—made into a mixture. A couple of table-spoonsful occasionally.]—ED.

## ON THE EFFECTS OF CAMPHOR.

—

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

IN perusing the cases of hydrophobia in your valuable publication, I do not perceive any in which simple camphor is prescribed as a remedy for that dreadful malady. I believe it is considered that this drug is a great, if not the greatest resister of poison and inflammation in the whole materia medica, as it penetrates instantaneously through the pores of the whole human frame, causing gentle perspiration, a regular circulation of the animal fluids, and expels morbid matter; might it not therefore be found highly beneficial in hydrophobia? I much wish to provoke a full discussion of the virtues of this most invaluable drug, for I have some reason to believe they are not fully known, even to the faculty in general. In looking over the London and Edinburgh Dispensatories, I perceive it enters into many of the prescriptions, but it appears to me in so trifling quantities, that they are little better than a chip in porridge; I feel myself warranted in this supposition, from having taken it internally for upwards of forty years with the most beneficial effect, whenever attacked with little feverish complaints; my method of taking



it in its pure pills of two grains each, two, three, or four of them, sometimes six before going to rest, which always procured calm sleep, and caused me to rise in the morning wonderfully invigorated. About thirty years ago, a near relation of mine was attacked with pleurisy in her side; her doctor, an eminent one in the city, ordered her to bathe the part affected with a soap liniment, she tried it several days without experiencing any relief. It struck me that it was very probable the other ingredients in this liniment blunted the power of the camphor and prevented its due operation, I therefore procured an ounce of pure alcohol, and dissolved therein a quarter of an ounce of camphor, and desired her to use it instead of the soap liniment, which she did, and was perfectly cured in a few days; four years ago, a female friend of hers was attacked with pleurisy in like manner, she advised her to try this camphor solution, and it perfectly cured her in a few days. Though not of the faculty I have read much of the quality and properties of drugs in general, as stated in various authors, and thereby obtained among others, a knowledge of the properties of this most noble drug camphor, and cannot help thinking, that if taken in rather large quantities than herein mentioned every eight hours, it would be attended with most happy effect in typhus fevers. I would say much more on the subject, but will not obtrude on you at present, except saying that I verily believe I have taken more of this simple drug than any man in the kingdom, and therefore speak experimentally, and remain

Your humble servant,  
VERITAS.

Oct. 4th, 1824.

[It is too common an occurrence that those, even medical practitioners, who are biassed in favour of any particular medicine, carry their prejudice too far, and argue themselves into the belief that it possesses universal benefit. We knew a surgeon once who had the charge of about a hundred and twenty patients, at Flushing, and he indis-

criminately administered a grain of opium to all!

We do not however think that Veritas has gone *too* far with his prejudice in favour of camphor. In typhus it is excellent, and in its simple form perhaps best; but in hydrophobia we fear it will possess little—however it is worthy of a trial.] ED.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

THE very laudable endeavours you have exerted in your widely circulated work, to expose and put down those impudent robbers and murderers, the empirics, deserve the approbation and assistance of every good man, and I take this opportunity of offering my share of opinion in this cause, with a hope that some legislative enactment will effectually put a stop to such havoc of property, of domestic comfort, of health, and of life. It does appear to me that this desirable object might be accomplished, by calling into action some humane member of the legislature, and I do not know any person more suited for this great object than yourself, you having called the attention of the public to it, and which might be done by a petition or petitions, to parliament. If you would make it public through your work, that such a petition laid for signatures, at any place or places, requesting that those who could, would render support to such by a subscription, it might then be accomplished without any expence to you; also a petition signed only by those persons who have suffered directly or indirectly by those men, stating attached to their names the persons who have so injured them. I mention about a subscription, because such petitions would be attended with some expence, and it would be too much to expect you to be at the trouble and expence too; thus, then, Sir, you may see my determined hatred to empirics, by offering my opinion as to the best means of putting them down. I was exceedingly hurt to see you place that *scientific gentleman*, Dr. Lang, amongst



such contemptible wretches as daily advertisers and wall chalkers; I must attribute this either to ignorance of his character or your prejudice against him, but from your answer to "Ignor," you do in effect acknowledge your observation to arise from ignorance, therefore that feeling of disgust in me is considerably lessened. Dr. Lang has received a regular medical education, and has got a diploma which he received in Germany, (and, by the bye, I think the German College of Physicians much more severe in its examination of applicants than the English.) I also must attribute to your want of knowing better of his practice, your calling him a "*water taster*;" I have been a patient of Dr. Lang's ever since he first came to England; I also know many respectable persons who are patients of his, and neither myself, nor any of whom ever saw him practice such a disgusting art. You invite some of your numerous correspondents to give you information, that you may give Dr. L. a lift; trusting to your usual generosity and candour, I now give you information with the hope you will give Dr. L. a lift out from amongst those disgraceful names you have placed him. I have been a constant reader of your work, and have exceedingly admired the liberality of your principles and the boldness of your writing, but cannot again read with the same satisfaction until you have done justice to this gentleman. I have known several cases where, in the course of Dr. L.'s practice, he has had a consultation with regular English professional medical men; indeed Dr. L. is as much entitled to have M. D. attached to his name, as any medical man in England. It is not consistent with the character of a gentleman to place his name amongst the most contemptible of mankind, merely because there is a difference in his mode of practice; if this spirit was encouraged, then the whole of the medical profession would be at war, because most of them differ in some way or other in their practice, and also there must be a stop to any improvement from a fear of being

set down as a quack; but, Sir, when you in your disputes confine yourself to the propriety or impropriety of such and such a practice, without degenerating into abuse, you open the field for fair discussion, but when you commence by ribaldry, you prevent the possibility of a gentleman meeting you in that way. We are both engaged in the same good cause, to put down empirics, but if either you or I in our zeal in that cause should wound the feelings of a gentleman, I can answer for myself, that I could not rest until I had made an acknowledgment of my error, and the high opinion I have of you, makes me feel a confidence you would do the same. With great respect to you for the public service you have rendered and are likely to render,

I subscribe myself, Sir,

Your humble servant

JUSTICIA.

[*Next week we mean to observe upon this and former letters on Dr. Lang's pretensions.—ED.*]



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

To the Editor of the Medical Advertiser.

SIR,

HAVING always found you exerting your utmost endeavours to suppress a set of locusts who are constantly preying upon the vitals of the public, (I mean the Quacks) in which meritorious employment you have been eminently successful; I have taken the liberty of sending you the following instance, amongst many others, of the villainy and rapacity of the Jordans, which is at your disposal if you think it worthy a place in your sheet:—

During a late tour which the



Jordans have been making *professionally* through the country, picking the pockets, and ruining the constitutions of those who were so credulous as to place themselves under their care; they arrived at Mansfield, where they took up their abode at the *head Inn*. Immediately after their arrival, they issued their placards throughout the town, inviting every one afflicted with diseases, (curable or incurable!!!) to consult them, "and they should find relief," professing also to give advice gratuitously to the poor. This of course they did out of motives of pure humanity and disinterested benevolence! Amongst the numbers, Sir, that went to visit these *humbuggers*, was a poor old woman, who had a slight disorder, which was the natural consequence of extreme old age. After examining her and making her believe herself worse than she really was, the *doctors* told her, that she must have a packet of their "Cordial Balm of Rakasiri," containing five bottles, charging for each bottle £1. 11s. 6d. making the packet to amount to the small sum of £7. 17s. 6d.; this the poor needy old creature said it was impossible for her to procure, but that she would pay for one bottle, and if she derived any great benefit from it she would make *vigorous efforts* to purchase another bottle at his agent's, Mr. C——n; "he be d——d," says the skilful doctors, "you scarcely suppose that we are such a set of fools as to send the genuine 'balm' to our agents, so if you wish to have the real stuff, you must send by letter post paid with the money inclosed to the West London Medical Establishment, Newman Street, Oxford Street, London." The woman immediately

after taking her leave of them, went and informed their agent what they had just told her, and he dispatched a messenger to the doctors without loss of time, informing them that unless their trash was removed from his shop in a few minutes, he should order it to be thrown into the street. So much for the Jordans. By inserting this you will oblige

Sir,

Your well wisher,

J. B. S.

Rotherham, Oct. 9th, 1824.



#### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Hydrophobia*.—Doctor Blundel's dog is not yet mad! the learned gentleman, we hear, *blows upon his face* every day, but can produce no other effect than a recogniscent growl and a friendly wag of the tail.

*Guy's Hospital*.—The surgeons of this hospital, who failed so *lamentably* in the late experiments upon a case of hydrophobia, have sent over for Monsieur Majendie to *teach* them to inject a *little water into a vein* without bungling!

*Thurtell*.—We understand that the skeleton of this murderer is neither at Hertford nor at Bartholomew's Hospital. Where is it? we would ask.

#### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In the Plate of our last Number some parts of the Instrument were left out, however they are of no consequence, as sufficient is shown to prove that it is the origin of the stomach syringe.

A. F. H. would do well to have his head shaved, and to wear a wig for a



few months. If he disapprove of this he should wash the head once a week with a little rum, and keep the hair clean and a little oiled.

BARNABAS OF MANCHESTER will find a letter directed to A. B., at the Manchester Post Office.

S. G., his complaint arises from indigestion, perhaps brought on by *certain* excesses—this cause must be removed, and we think he would do well to follow the plan laid down at page 338 “Medical Adviser.”

F. G., BETHNAL GREEN, may take with advantage a table-spoonful of the decoction of bark every morning, acidulated with sulphuric acid. Leave off meat suppers, and take, instead, a few oysters and a biscuit, with half a pint of porter. Let the bowels be regulated by rhubarb and magnesia.

M. E. will find benefit from the advice given above to F. G.; but in addition should take every four days five grains of blue pill, with three drachms of salts the next morning—this for a month or two, when he may write again.

T. C.—R.—S. for the paleness or yellowness of the face taking place after washing, he is right in thinking it arises from bile and indigestion. We think having first taken a purgative of three grains of calomel at night, and half an ounce of salts next morning, he may find great benefit from a short course of Majendie's medicine, “the *Tonic Wine*”—a month will do. We do not in general recommend patent medicines, but in this we think there ought to be an exception, for we think it the most effectual compound in cases of indigestion and those nervous effects arising from it.

HENRY's case is *indigestion*: he eats or drinks *too much* at a meal; alter this and take every third day five grains of blue pill, and the following morning two or three drachms of Epsom salts. The decoction of bark in the morning, (a spoonful) with five drops of diluted sulphuric acid, will also assist.

A PHYSICIAN AND SUBSCRIBER's letter shall be made use of next week. We KNOW — is an arrant quack; but we are taking him *coolly for a while*.

HENRY F—R, Cambridge, shall have a letter directed to the post-office, Cambridge.

T. N.—You certainly are better; go on—another month will cure you.

MISERABLE is only making himself unhappy; however, we will write to A. B., Post-Office.

ELIZA S—N should not sleep so long in the morning; she is not in that way that “ladies wish to be who love their lords;” but let her still take her medicine.

The first meeting of the “NEW COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS,” &c. is postponed.

TREPINE is received.

INQUISITOR.—Dr. Eady, the wall-chalker, is confined to his room; he was severely beaten by Dr. Jordan; they fought seventeen rounds; Jordan's nose is “out of joint,” but he is not otherwise injured. Eady has got a terrible beating: they fought at a club composed principally of quacks, and quarrelled about *precedence*!!

T. S. O., next week.

J. B. S. should merely anoint the parts affected with a little mercurial ointment; two or three times will be enough.

D\*—Take an emetic, and write to us two days after.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER, AND GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 48.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



SIR MORGAN O'DOHERTY, BART. BLACK. MAG.

*Punch to a T.*

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## PUNCH TO A T.

LOOK at the Plate of this Number, oh, ye tasteful readers! and think of the glories of good punch. And thou, prime son of the sage of Teos, Sir Morgan O'Doherty, Baronet, of Blackwood's Magazine, come take a peep at the picture of yourself! Behold, in the spirit-beaming eye, your own true Irish cognoscence and capacity. See, in the medio-digital of the bottle-hand that knowing elegance of which the mouth of your decanter can speak so well! Gaze on the bowl before you, so like your ink-stand, where spirit and acid mingle most delightfully, on a sample of which the artist's hero dwells with intense happiness! Say, does it not titillate you? Has it not (if the truth were known) decided you in favour of a double "go" to-night? Do you not, this moment, vow in secret to take this evening a dose of your favourite medicine every five minutes till it operates? Not a doubt of it: the picture is *your very self*, and you will not belie it. Oh! gentle readers, always barring Morgan, (for he'd see us d—d before he'd mind us) beware of punch, and all its apparent beauties. In that sweet, placid, spirit-giving bowl, beset with all the brilliants of wit and humour, dwells death and his desperate outriders. "*Punch to a T*" pleases all our palates, but which of our heads does it not make twinge, if we stick to it like Morgan O'Doherty—*till it operates*. It comes like an assassin in a silken domine—daggers beneath its surface.

If you must drink, drink wine, or wine and water, or plain grog; but oh, leave off punch; acid and sugar, and spirit, and *bile*, but ill agree—except with the apothecary, a dose from whose *bowl* we shall see in our next Plate.

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 278.)

DURING the first and inflammatory stage of the disease, it will be advisable, in compliance with the

antiphlogistic plan, to employ gentle laxatives, should the bowels be costive.

When there is any febrile heat, with a cough or pain in the chest, we may give diaphoretics, such as small doses of tartarised antimony, or the pulvis antimonialis, repeated three or four times a-day, together with the saline mixture and nitre.

It will be necessary to pay a proper attention to regimen. The diet should consist of such things as are nutritive and easy of digestion; as, preparations of the different farinacea with milk, most kinds of vegetables and fruits, poached eggs, light puddings, custards, jellies, and animal broths. The different kinds of shell-fish (but more particularly oysters, lobsters, crabs, prawns, and cray-fish) may also be proper. Where the symptoms are but trifling, and the patient cannot well refrain from animal food, he may then be allowed such as is of the lightest nature, and most easily digested. All fermented liquors, but more particularly spirituous ones, are to be avoided.

Milk of itself is a valuable remedy in phthisis. That of the ass is usually preferred to any other; but it cannot always be obtained: besides, it is generally taken in a very small quantity; whereas, to produce any effect, it ought to make a considerable part of the patient's diet. Instead of taking half an English pint night and morning only, as is usually practised by phthisical patients, they ought to take it at least four times a-day, eating a little bread with it, so as to make it a kind of meal.

If the milk should happen to purge, it may be mixed with a little of the powder of prepared chalk, or with a small quantity of the confectio rosæ gallicæ.

The best effects have been known to proceed from a long-continued use of women's milk, which is indeed the best of all others for consumptive persons; but as it is not to be obtained in a sufficient quantity, we are generally obliged to substitute either asses' milk, or that of cows.

The milk of cows, although not



so easily digested as that of asses or mares, may be rendered much lighter by allowing it to stand for some time, and then taking off the cream.

In cases of incipient phthisis, a free use of butter-milk has frequently been attended with much advantage. In order to make it sit easy on the stomach, it should at first be taken sparingly, and the quantity gradually increased.

To assist in preventing an inflammation of the tubercles in the lungs, it will be necessary that the patient avoid any particular irritation of the parts affected, which may arise from the violent exercise of respiration, as in singing, playing on wind instruments, or making long and loud declamations: he is likewise to avoid going into crowded rooms; the air of which, from being inhaled by many different people, becomes at length very unfit for respiration, particularly in those whose lungs are already in a weak and irritable state; he is to refrain from placing his body in such a position, either in reading, writing, or following his ordinary occupation in life, as that the capacity of the thorax shall be the least straitened in consequence of pressure against it: he is to shun all kinds of bodily exercise which require much exertion, and in particular, he is carefully to guard against any exposure to cold, which never fails to determine a greater quantity of blood to the lungs and other internal parts than what is natural.

With the view of guarding against any diminution of cutaneous perspiration, in consequence of the application to cold, he should wear a flannel waistcoat next his skin, together with sliders of the same, and stockings of cotton or worsted. Such a dress may be found a little irksome at first; but time soon reconciles it, and in the end renders it truly desirable and comfortable.

Where the patient cannot bear flannel next the skin, he may make trial of calico, which will keep up a more equable temperature on the surface of the body than linen, and guard against the action of external cold. He is by all means to avoid

exposing himself to the piercing north-east winds of this country.

In our climate, tubercles are evidently induced and accelerated in winter, and retarded in summer. A person gets a dry cough in winter or spring, which goes off as the summer advances, and was regarded as a catarrh, but tubercles were forming: if, therefore, such a person could be removed to a warm climate before the winter comes on, he might escape an attack at this period, and by continuing there for a few years, might be perfectly recovered. Going to a warm climate is not merely avoiding what might be hurtful: it is applying a remedy which has the best chance to prove beneficial.

It may justly be admitted, that the cold and variable temperature of the winters in England is the great source of phthisis in this country, and when the disorder is once formed, greatly contributes to its fatal termination; and that a warm and equable temperature in some measure prevents the formation of the disease, and when it has taken place in only a slight degree, possesses some power in retarding its progress.

In the early stage of consumption, that is to say, when suppuration and ulceration have not yet taken place, it appears from the report of Sir James Macgregor, that the disease was checked by the climate of the Peninsula among those of the army affected with phthisis; but that when suppuration and ulceration had taken place, it run even a more rapid progress than in England, and the same remark has been made in regard to the East and West Indies.

It is indeed a well-established fact, that a warm climate is only advantageous in cases of incipient phthisis. Persons who have passed the first stage of pulmonary consumption, will derive no benefit from a journey to the South of Europe, or elsewhere. Those who labour under confirmed phthisis should never quit their own country. By leaving it, they will lose many comforts; they most probably will be deprived of the attendance of their near-



est and dearest friends, as well as that of the medical men in whom they can place confidence, as the English are apt to be prejudiced against foreign physicians: they will, moreover, expose themselves to much anxiety and fatigue, and all this for a vague hope of recovery or prolonging life—an expectation very seldom, if ever realised. If they remain at home, which they had best do, in all cases of confirmed phthisis, they may live throughout the winter in a regulated temperature.

(To be Continued.)

### THE AGUE.

(From an Evening Paper.)

THIRTY years ago, a lady had the misfortune to be afflicted with an ague, which baffled the attempts of the best medical assistance of her neighbourhood for more than two years, when a stranger, accidentally coming to the house, spoke with great confidence of a very simple remedy, namely, two tea-spoons-full of the best flour of brimstone, taken in a gill of port wine, whenever the fit comes on, the patient going to bed immediately, and wrapped in blankets. This the lady was induced to try, as the remedy was innocent in its nature, and no possible evil could result. The effect was a most profuse perspiration, and the suppression of the fit for that time; two days afterwards it came on again, and the remedy not being resorted to, the fit had its usual course; again, in two other days, on the symptoms appearing, the mixture was taken, and it not only gave immediate relief, but entirely removed the complaint. The lady in question is desirous of making the circumstance public, for the benefit of such as may be afflicted with this distressing complaint; and she is the more induced to do so, because she has, in numerous cases, recommended the same remedy, and has not, in the experience of thirty years, known a single failure. The first application generally

effects the cure, and few instances have occurred that required the repetition more than twice. Where wine could not be procured, the sulphur mixed with water would be found to answer the same purpose.

### BARRENNESS IN THE SEXES.

SOME confound barrenness with impotence; but the difference is at opposite points. Sterility may be present when both male and female possess copulative powers. Although barrenness be applied to both sexes, yet it most frequently is confined to the female; for if the male complete the act of intercourse, it is all that is required; while the act, although also performed by the female, shall not prove procreative.

Applying then, barrenness exclusively to the female, it may be considered as of two kinds,—*constitutional* and *morbid*. The first is discovered only by the unfruitfulness of the married state, without an apparent cause, without any derangement of health, with a full desire of connubial enjoyment, and the capability of full gratification. This sterility may not be permanent; but, by the change of time and circumstance, dissipate. Yet it will often occur after the woman has born a child or children, and so become barren for a number of years, when the power will return, and the woman again become fruitful.

MORBID sterility arises from affections of the female parts of generation, such as a closing up of the *os uteri*, or of the fallopean tubes, or from other adhesions or derangement, most frequently caused by previous inflammation. It may also be set down to a weakness in the male, brought on by early excess, in which case the intercourse cannot be complete.

There is no doubt that inequalities between the sympathies of the man or the woman, or physical disproportions, have been frequent causes of barrenness; for two shall



be married for years together, and have no children, yet on either party marrying again, perfect fecundity will follow.

Taking it for granted that no morbid or constitutional sterility exists, the cause must be sought in a *want of sympathy*; and for this, true connubial love and virtue will be found the only remedy.

## CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD.

*By Mr. Charles Bell.*

(Continued from page 263.)

THE atmosphere contains various gases or airs; but one only, viz. vital air or oxygen gas, is useful to respiration, combustion, and animal life; that purer air must, like every other, arise from some solid basis: that basis cannot be shewn in any substantial form, but it can be combined with many various bodies, so as to give them an increased weight and new qualities; and thence we presume to say, whenever we see a body, by such a process, acquiring such qualities, that it acquires them by absorbing the basis of pure air; for pure air is nothing but this presumed basis dilated into the form of air by heat; and when it combines with any body, it gives out its heat; so that in all these processes heat is produced. And although inflammable bodies, metals, acids, and animal blood, seem very distinct from each other; although combustion, breathing, calcination, and the forming of acids, are processes seemingly very unlike; yet they are all in their essential points the same, viz. a change of qualities, and a production of heat in consequence of the absorption of pure air.

First, when an inflammable body is burnt, or consumed by fire, the basis of pure air is combining with the combustible body; the air is entering into a new combination, and therefore must give out its heat; it combines rapidly, gives out its heat rapidly, is wasted; the inflammable body burns, and seems to be

consumed; but if we catch that air which escapes from the inflammable body, we find it to be equal exactly to the whole weight of the air and of the burning body that have been consumed; and this air consists of two parts, viz. of the substance which was burnt, and of the basis of pure air. Thus, for example, when we burn charcoal or carbon, the whole substance of it, weight for weight, is converted into an air, which is called fixed or carbonic acid gas; the same which is discharged from stoves, the same also which is found in pits, the same which oozes through the ground in the Grotto del Cane, the same which floats upon the surface of fermenting vats, and which is so much heavier than common air, that it can be taken out from a vat in basins, and poured from dish to dish. Combustion, then, is a process which consists in the rapid assumption of the basis of pure air, and a consequent conversion of the burning body into an air or gas endowed with peculiar qualities and powers.

If, then, the oxygenation of the blood be a process like this, it must differ chiefly in degree; it might in certain circumstances become too rapid, and resemble an actual combustion; and so in certain circumstances it does; for our atmosphere is so tempered, that no more than twenty-one parts of a hundred consists of pure air, as we term it, that is of oxygen. This is the reason that even burning as well as breathing are slow processes, and that an animal, if made to breathe pure air, or vital air, as it is called, gets oxygen too rapidly supplied, is inflamed quickly, and dies.

Secondly, the process of calcination is the same in all metals; it also is an assumption of the pure air, or rather of its basis, with a change of qualities and increase of weight: if you calcine lead slowly, it becomes first yellow, then orange, then red; it becomes heavier, so that from 100 pounds of lead you have 110 pounds of litharge, or calx of lead: if you calcine mercury, it also becomes first yellow, then red, and much heavier than at first: if



you distil any of these metals, you can by heat merely drive out the purest air from them; they recover their brilliancy and grow lighter, because the basis of air is expelled. The basis of pure air is expelled, not in that solid form in which it was embodied by the calx, but being now combined with heat, it appears in the form of vital air; the air is much purer than that of the atmosphere which was used in the process, because the metal absorbs or appropriates to itself nothing but the purest air, leaving the azotic or foul air behind; and finally, if you wish to see the harmony betwixt combustion and calcination, or to be assured that calcination is truly the burning of a metal, take some of this pure air, which is three times purer than the atmosphere, and raises an intenser flame; plunge into it a piece of iron wire, which is made red-hot; and this wire (which would only have wasted or rusted into a calx in the common atmosphere) will, in the pure air, burst out into a brilliant white flame, and burn entirely while it has such air; nay, some metals, as zinc, burn even in our common atmosphere with a most brilliant flame.

From this second process, must it not be presumed that the principle which gives an increase of weight, and such singular properties to various metals, must have very interesting effects upon the blood?

Thirdly, it is from this principle also that all acids are formed; and as oxyd is the Greek name for acid, the great Lavoisier has thought fit to give a name to the basis of air, or that principle which is obvious only when operating in such processes as these. He adds to the Greek name for acid that verb which implies the generation of any substance; he calls it thus oxygen, or the principle which generates acids. It were easy to shew how truly this great point is supported by all the particular operations in chemistry.

The oxydation of the blood makes a fact no less important in physiology than in chemistry; for as there

are various marks of the influence of oxygen on the blood itself, there are terrible proofs of its importance in the system, and how miserable the person is who has imperfect organs, or an ill oxygenated blood.

It signifies not to our present purpose, whether any thing is actually given to the circulating blood during respiration, or if only the carbonaceous matter be separated and carried away: the contact of blood with a certain portion of pure air or oxygen is absolutely necessary to the continuance of life.

(To be Continued.)

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### *The Qualities, Medical Properties, &c. of Arsenic.*

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THE greater part of the white oxide of arsenic of commerce is obtained in Bohemia and Saxony, in roasting the cobalt ores, in making zaffre, and sometimes by sublimation from arsenical pyrites. The roasting is performed in furnaces with long flues, in which the impure oxide is condensed: and this is purified by sublimation in the following method. Large square boxes of cast iron, furnished with conical heads, which are closely luted to them with clay, are disposed in a brick area, heated by the flues of two furnaces placed a little beneath them. When these boxes are red hot, the impure arsenic, by fifteen pounds at a time, is put into them, where it melts, and soon sublimes in the conical head. Successive additions are thus submitted to the action of heat, till about 150 pounds have been used to each vessel; and then the apparatus is allowed to cool. The conical head is now separated from the box, and carried with its contents into another place, where the workmen break off with hammers the sublimed oxide, separating the impurities for a second operation.

The oxide or arsenous acid thus obtained is a dense, semi-transparent, solid cake; which becomes opaque, of a snowy whiteness, and pulverulent, when exposed to the air. It is



met with in both these forms in the shops; and often is sold in powder, in which state it is sometimes adulterated with white sand, chalk, and gypsum; but the fraud is easily detected by heating a small portion of the suspected powder; by which the oxide is entirely dissipated, and the impurities are left behind.

The greater quantity of the oxide of arsenic used in this country is brought from Germany, in casks, each containing from two to five hundred weight.

White oxide of arsenic is inodorous; has an acrid taste, leaving on the tongue a sweetish impression; and is highly corrosive. When pure, if it has not been freely exposed to the action of the air, it is in semi-transparent, colourless, shining masses, which break with a conchoidal fracture. It is soluble in 400 parts of water at  $60^{\circ}$ , and in thirteen parts of boiling water; and the latter solution, on cooling, retains three parts of the white oxide for every 100 of water, and deposits the remainder in tetrahedrous crystals. Both solutions redden infusion of litmus, and combine with the alkalies. It is soluble also in solution of pure potass, in alcohol and in oils. When heated in the open air, this oxide is volatilized in a temperature of about  $383^{\circ}$  Fahr., and the vapour has no odour: but if it be heated in contact with any substance, which has a strong affinity for oxygen, the vapours have an alliaceous colour, owing to the partial reduction of the oxide.\* The specific gravity of the oxide in its ordinary state is 3.706, that of the glass 3.699. According to the average of the experiments by different chemists, 100 parts of the oxide consist of 75 of arsenic, and 25 of oxygen.\* On the simple watery solution of the oxide, no change is produced by a solution of sulphate of iron, of oxymuriate of

mercury, tartarized antimony, the mineral acids, or the alkalies; but nitrate of silver throws down a yellowish precipitate, which gradually passes to a brown colour; and a white precipitate is produced by superacetate of lead. Lime water also precipitates it white; sulphurets of the alkalies, pale yellow; and sulphuretted hydrogen gas, golden yellow.

Although white oxide of arsenic is the most virulent of the mineral poisons, yet when properly administered, it is a medicine of great efficacy; and is employed internally as a tonic, and externally as an escharotic. It had been long used as an internal empirical remedy in cancer, and some cutaneous affections, both in Europe and the East Indies; and for the cure of intermittents in Hungary; and in Lincolnshire under the name of "the ague drop:" but its effects were not clearly understood, nor the proper mode of administering it known, till Dr. Fowler of Stafford published his *Observations on its use in the cure of remitting fevers and periodic head aches.*† Since that time the authority of many respectable practitioners has been brought forward in confirmation of its efficacy in these diseases; and in lepra, chronic rheumatism, intermittent hemiplegia or megrim, scirrhus, and some local painful affections "of the ends of the bones, cartilages, or ligaments, or of all three together." It has also been used in dropsy, hydrophobia, syphilis, visceral and glandular obstructions, and in many other diseases, in which, however, its efficacy is by no means established. In the East Indies the native physicians employ arsenic (*sanc'hya*) made into pills with six parts of black pepper, for the cure of confirmed lues (Persian fire,) and a species of elephantiasis (*Judham*.)

\* The swelters of copper in Cornwall and Wales, although much exposed to the vapour of arsenic, yet suffer very little from them; but they are sometimes attacked with cancer in the scrotum. Dr. Paris (*Pharmacologia*) remarks, that they rely upon oil being an antidote; and are consequently supplied with it by their employers.

† It is a curious fact that previous to the introduction of copper-works in Cornwall, agues were very frequent; but since that period the disease is extremely rare. "I have heard it," says Dr. Paris (*Pharmacologia*), "remarked by the men in the works, that the smoke kills all fevers." Is this owing to the arsenical fumes?



It is also used in cases of the bite of the hooded snake, *cobra del capello*.

The internal use of white oxide of arsenic is contraindicated in all cases attended with strong arterial action; and where there are any pulmonary symptoms: and should a cough even intervene during its use, it should be instantly discontinued. When it is exhibited in proper cases, and with necessary precaution, the effects it produces must be carefully observed: "the feeling of swelling and stiffness of the palpebræ and face, heat, soreness and itching of the tarsi, or tenderness of the mouth," are indications that the dose of the remedy has been carried to its full extent, and should then be diminished. If erythema or salivation appear, the use of it must be suspended: and it should be altogether abandoned if pain of the stomach, nausea, vomiting, headache, vertigo, or cough be induced.

The white oxide is exhibited either in substance or in solution. The best mode of giving it in substance is in the form of pills, formed by rubbing one grain of the oxide with ten grains of sugar, and then beating the mixture with a sufficient quantity of crumb of bread, so as to form ten moderately-sized pills; one of which is a dose. The solution, however, is more manageable. The most common form of it is that of the London College; (*vide liquor arsenicalis*;) but the simple solution in distilled water, in the proportion of four grains to a pint, is also given according to M. Le Febvre's method. A table spoonful of the solution, mixed with a little syrup of poppies and half a pint of milk, is directed to be taken in a morning fasting, and the frequency of the dose increased until six spoonful be daily taken.

As an external application the oxide of arsenic has been long employed in cases of cancer; and has certainly done more to improve the ulceration, and give it a disposition to contract and heal, than any other external application. It has been sprinkled, in the form of powder, upon the sores; but the most vio-

lent pain follows this mode of applying it; and in some instances, probably from its absorption, the general system has been dangerously affected. The more usual mode of using it is in the form of a lotion, composed of eight grains of the oxide, and the same quantity of subcarbonate of potass, dissolved in four fluid ounces of water; or as an ointment, formed by rubbing together one drachm of the oxide and twelve drachms of spermaceti ointment. These applications produce little pain and irritation, cause the diseased parts to slough off, and amend the fetid discharge; but, although to a certain extent they produce the most beneficial effects, yet, the instances in which a cure has been effected are very rare.

The white oxide of arsenic is not unfrequently the cause of death; from accidents occurring to those artists who use it in their manipulations, as glass-makers, dyers, and workers in gold; or from ignorance of the proper dose of its preparations when medicinally used; or from the employment of it as a poison. The symptoms which occur are those of inflammation of the stomach, incessant vomiting, purging, and pain of the stomach; constriction of the throat, and great heat of the mouth; sinking of the pulse, cold sweats, convulsions, and death; but if the quantity be not sufficient to produce speedy dissolution, the first-mentioned symptoms are succeeded by paralysis, hectic, and other symptoms of extreme debility. When death takes place, symptoms of putridity are said soon to present themselves, but this is not always the case, although the body is often marked with livid stripes, and covered with enchymoses; and on dissection the stomach often, although not always, appears either abraded, or completely eroded in several parts; with appearances of inflammation extending through the whole abdominal viscera. Particles of the arsenic are occasionally found adhering to the abraded parts of the villous coat of the stomach. (*Further observations in our next.*)



*Bleeding and Purging at the Fall  
of the Leaf.*

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THERE may be some reason for this practice; however, it ought not to be general, as in a great measure it is, but guided by proper principle. Bleeding and purging are remedies against approaching inflammation and fever; and as the fall of the leaf is a time which usually produces a greater degree of disease in our climate than the other seasons, these remedies, from having been frequently employed through a long series of years, have led to a general adoption. They are *not useful* except the approach of disease is evident; for we might as well use them under any other circumstance which threatened disease. However, *purging* without bleeding might be of great use as a general remedy, or rather preventive, at the fall of the leaf. The French always resort to this at that time of the year, and in the spring. We highly approve of the practice; but not of *bleeding*.

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ON WEARING FLANNEL.

(From *Sutcliffe's Medical Cases*.)

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FOR more than twenty years the language of the prophet (Ezekiel xliv.) has occasionally engrossed my attention upon this subject. The prohibition is thus worded:—"They shall not gird themselves with wool that causeth sweat." Although Palestine and Babylon are regions many degrees nearer the equinoctial line than Britannia Magna, I think we need not restrict the precept to those limits. What every body says must be true. The universal rage for wearing flannel next the skin made me once try it; for who would be singular at the expense of his health? I do not know what I might wear in the arctic regions; but as I hope never to visit them, unless it be by accompanying fancy voyagers, whose temerity is greater

than their prudence, in my routine of practice I have occasionally touched upon this minor matter, observing, that those who continue the use of flannel in immediate contact with the skin, are more susceptible of catarrh or quinsey than others. I have so long noticed the fact, that with me, though I may be under a delusion, it admits of no doubt; and at the same time, while I enjoy in my own person so happy an exemption, I shall continue my predilections, though I gain no converts. I was recently arguing the point with Mr. Bernal, the Israelite. He replied by observing, that he had travelled many countries, and never met with a medical man before who protested against flannel. "I cannot help it, Sir," said I, "that is my opinion; and, as my mother taught me, 'if you have truth on your side, always dare to be singular, even against the whole world.'" Ten years ago, I was called in to Mr. D—, of Aldgate, to pass an opinion upon a very disagreeable and troublesome eruption. My patient and I went up stairs, accompanied by Mrs. D—, as delicate and accomplished a lady as can be found in any district. Upon inspecting the eruption, which covered the whole body and chest, I observed that he was encased with an armour of flannel, steeped with inspissated perspiration. My olfactory nerves were saluted by the foetid exhalations, which had no means of escape. I exclaimed, "My good Sir, I would not submit to such purgatory for all the cardinals in Italy; all this is self-procured; get into the hot-bath, and put on a new flannel waistcoat over your linen." My patient was shortly well, and often thanks me for my advice.

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SECRET OF CURING THE ITCH.

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TAKE care that the whole of the body be well rubbed with sulphur ointment, three days running.



## OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

### *Eel-skin Garters to cure the Cramp in the Legs.*

This remedy is of use only on the principle explained in our last Number, when speaking of carrying bones in the pocket to prevent cramp.

### *Swallowing Insects to cure Jaundice.*

An absurd practice. Better take three grains of calomel, and after that a dose of salts.

## USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

### *A good Drink for Dyspeptic Habits.*

Take of cartomum seeds, an ounce,  
Senna leaves, half an ounce,  
Manna, two drachms,  
Ginger (whole), half an ounce.

Boil in three quarts of water; add a little lemon juice.

### *A Daily Medicine for Indigestion.*

Of rhubarb, eight grains,  
Ginger, five grains.  
Mix—take in a glass of wine.

## CORRESPONDENT'S LETTER.

*To the Editor of the Medical  
Adviser.*

Sir,

BEING a constant reader of your valuable work, I have taken the liberty of writing a few lines to you. I am fifty-one years of age, and, when able, I am occupied as foreman in a flax spinning-mill: it is now twelve months since I was taken ill, I believe with putting on damp clothes, with a pain in my left shoulder that came through to my breast. I applied to a Dr. George, of Ilminster, who bled and physicked me, and ordered me a pot of porter and two glasses of wine a-day. I had a violent cough, and spit a great deal of what he called mucus. In February I was attack-

ed with a pain among my ribs, when he bled and physicked me as before, ordering me to take bark and horehound tea twice a-day, which I did. In May I was again attacked with a violent pain just below the ribs, when he treated me as before, ordering me porter and wine, and to continue the bark, which, on the Sunday following, brought on a violent pain in my left side, below my ribs; and, on Sunday the 23d of May, I was seized with a violent pain below my ribs on the right side, when he took from my left arm twenty ounces of blood, and physicked me most violently; still the cough and spitting continued. He then ordered me three glasses of wine a-day, and porter as before, which he told my wife to see enforced, as also the bark and horehound tea: then, on the 4th of June, I was attacked with a pain among my ribs on the left side, so violent that I could scarcely draw my breath. When I sent my eldest son to tell him I would not have him any more, as I was sure he was treating me wrong, and I would have another doctor, he advised my son to persuade me to have a physician, which I did from Crewkerne, named Tosey, who wrote a prescription, and gave him; it was two draughts a-day, and one pill night and morning, which I believe should have been the blue pill, with ointment to rub on my chest, and where the pain was, to bring out pimples; when he did not send what the physician had ordered, so I had no more to do with him. The physician told me to drink whey, buttermilk, or milk and water, which I did. In the latter end of July I spit up some blood, when I applied to a Dr. Clarke of Ilminster, of whom I had taken twelve half-pint bottles of medicine, with pills, but I still keep getting worse; the cough continues, and I spit, in the course of a night, about half a tea-cupfull of thick greenish stuff, what the doctor calls mucus of the lungs, with now and then a table-spoonful of clear blood, which I did on Friday last. My breath is short, my appetite bad,



and I have a tightness across my chest, and am almost wasted to a skeleton. I have always lived regular, and have not been used to drinking. If you can render me any service, I and my wife and family will always have reason to pray for you. I still have the pain in my breast that goes through to my blade-bone, and removes to the middle of my ribs, but is more violent than when I first felt it.

I am, Sir,

Your humble servant,

THOMAS CRANFIELD.

October 11, 1824.

[*"My breath is short, my appetite bad, I have a tightness across my chest, and am almost wasted to a skeleton."* This is the situation of the unhappy writer of this letter! Who can this Dr. George of Homerton be? What university could send forth such a member? To order wine, porter, and bark, in such a complaint. Our pen trembles as we write, but we hold off a little—because the writer may by possibility be wrong. We wait another week, in order to give Dr. G. an opportunity of making his statement; and we request Thos. Cranfield to send Dr. G. this Number of our publication, for the purpose of giving him a fair opportunity of replying, which we will gladly receive.] ED.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.]

### NEW COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

#### *First Examination of Candidates for Diplomas.*

THIS learned Society met last Wednesday in the Free-and-easy Room of the White Hart in Bishopsgate-

street, for the purpose of appointing the Court of Examiners for the ensuing year. Soon after the appointed hour, Dr. Courtenay, the president, took the chair, and was immediately surrounded by a number of the members of that learned body. After a short pause, the president moved that the seventh resolution, which was carried at their first meeting, should now be read. It was as follows:—

Resolved,—“That every gentleman who attended the *first* \* meeting of the College should be *Fellows thereof*: and that all persons who should desire to be admitted in future must submit to an examination.”

After the resolution had been read, the president proposed to follow it up by another, which was to this effect:—

Resolved,—“That there be appointed a Court of Examiners, to consist of six Fellows of the College, who shall be chosen annually, and who shall examine all candidates for the honour of the diploma.”

This resolution being put and carried, the following were appointed to form the Court:—Dr. Eady, Dr. M'Donald, Dr. Br\*d\*m, Dr. Cameron, Dr. Jordan, and Dr. Gardiner.

Dr. Eady then rose and stated, that he would move an adjournment of the meeting, as it was unnecessary to detain his brethren any longer, seeing that the object of this meeting was accomplished by the formation of the Court of Examiners; but he would request the Court to take their seats, as there were then several candidates waiting to pass the ordeal. This motion being carried, the meeting was dissolved, and the room immediately cleared of all persons except the Court; who having taken their seats, ordered that the first candidate should be called in.

The first person who presented himself was a little squalid man, with smooth hair, and closely crop-

\* This was the case with the College of Physicians in Warwick-lane, when first embodied.



ped, who, after making his *congee*, took a seat opposite the president. The following examination then commenced:—

President.—What is your name?

Candidate.—Peter Sykes.

Pres.—Well, Mr. Sykes, how long have you been physicking people?

Cand.—About five years.

Pres.—Where do you live?

Cand.—In Horsemonger-lane.

Pres.—What diseases do you cure?

Cand.—I cures all the incurable complaints.

Pres.—But what complaints in particular do you turn your attention to?

Cand.—Why, the pulmurry consumption.

Pres.—How do you cure that?

Cand.—Why, I dries and powders cats livers, frogs' dung, and mackerels' eyes, and mixes them together with the blood of buck fleas; these beat in a mortar, makes pills that cures all manner of *consumption*.

Dr. Gardiner.—An admirable medicine, no doubt.

Pres.—What trade did you follow before you took to physic?

Cand.—I was a nackar,—boiled horses for dogs' meat; and so, in killing them, I larned a bit of the inside, like.

Pres.—Was not your trade good enough that you left it to turn doctor?

Cand.—Yes; but I wished to be a great man, as I had heard that I might be one if I took to physic. I was likewise informed that some of the great men of this College was in trade formerly.

Dr. Eady.—Take care what you say about that.

Cand.—I begs pardon.

Pres.—Have you invented a balm also?

Cand.—O yes; my balm is called the balm of Seringapatam.

Dr. Jordan.—Fiddlesticks, man! Did you never hear of the balm of Rakisiri?

Cand.—Rack—what, Sir?

Dr. Jordan. (*in a fume*)—Eh, Sir! are you, too, going to run down my balm? You sha'n't be a Fellow of

this College if I can help it,—if you—I be d——d.

Pres.—I hope that my learned friend will moderate his temper; he must be aware that every man cannot pronounce scientific names well as he can.

Dr. Jordan.—I vill drop the matter now, but I vont have de balm sneered at.

Pres.—Well, Mr. Sykes, what are the virtues of the balm of Seringapatam?

Cand.—La, Sir! wonderful! It will make old people young again; makes sour tempers angelic; makes old maids hate cats, and young ones leave off giggling; turns old bachelors into good fellows;—in short, it is food and drink, and, if generally used, will bring down the price of butchers' meat.

Dr. Jordan.—Humph—ay; I suppose by killing off—something like my own balm.

Pres.—Where did you study physic?

Cand.—I never larnt it from nobody; I dreamt of it all.

Dr. Jordan.—*You dream, indeed!*

Dr. Eady.—Perhaps he can dream as well as *other* people, Dr. Jordan.

Pres.—We have no objection to dreams: Dr. Jordan has proved how much can be *got* that way. But, Mr. Sykes, do you weigh out your medicine.

Cand.—No; I lumps it.

Pres.—Very good; that proves the gentleman must have practised a good while. Do you keep a shop?

Cand.—No;—but I have two parlours, and a blue fly in the window.

(Several of the Court here asked what he meant by a blue fly, and Dr. Jordan expounded the term—it was a *blue bottle*.)

Pres.—O! very well; I see he'll do, Gentlemen, he is acquainted with the *new names* perfectly.

Dr. Br\*d\*m.—Mynheer Sykes, have you got a degree from any Garman college?

Cand.—O yes, Dr. Br\*d\*m, the same as yourself.

(This posed Dr. Br\*d\*m—he pressed the question no farther)



Dr. Eady.—pray, Sir, do you use chalk?

Cand.—No, doctor, you have left us no room to use it.—(*a general laugh.*)

Dr. M'Donald.—What is your general mode of treating every disease?

Cand.—Why, Sir, I stuffs them with mercury and arsenic, and then I either kill or cure.

Dr. M'Donald.—Very good; you have had a lesson from me, I see.

Dr. Gardiner.—Do you cure worms?

Cand.—Yes.

Dr. Gardiner.—*You*—you cure worms! What religion are you?

Cand.—I am no particular sort.

Dr. Gardiner.—Do you ever go to church?

Cand.—No.

Dr. Gardiner.—Yet you say you can cure worms,—O, you reprobate!

(Here the president interfered, and severely censured Dr. Gardiner for his illiberal prejudice.)

Pres.—Mr. Sykes, answer me one more question. Can you humbug?

Cand.—Ay, that I can, as well as any on you.

Pres.—Very well, that will do.

Here the examination closed, and it was then put from the chair whether the candidate should be admitted a fellow of the College. After a short debate, it was decided in the affirmative. Dr. Jordan, however, would not consent, unless the candidate made a promise that he would not practise in Blackfriars-road. This he immediately consented to; after which, the president presented him with a diploma in due form.

The next candidate that was called in was a negro, who seemed to have just escaped from the land of *slavery, whips and chains*. The first question of the president was, what is your name?

Cand.—Massa, my name Lynch.

Lynch, said the president; are you a relative of our reputed friend Dr. Lynch?

Cand.—Yes, Massa, he be my brother.

Pres.—Where did you study physic?

Cand.—In de West Indy, Massa.

Dr. Eady.—What induced you to come to England? We have enough doctors already here.

Cand.—I see'd my broder had got away from de slave-driver, and had become a gentleman by de physic.

Dr. Eady—And did you run away too?

Cand.—Yes, Massa, I run'd away too.

Dr. M'Donald—What complaints can you cure?

Cand.—I cures de agur and falling sickness.

Dr. M'Donald—How do you manage that?

Cand.—I bury dem in de ground up to de neck, and den stuffs burnt dung in de mouth.

Dr. Cameron—Do you know any thing of urine?

Cand.—Yes, Massa, I cures by de urine.

Dr. Cameron—How so?

Cand.—Why, I makes up de people's urine dat consult me into mixtures and drops, and gives it to de patients again, so de tink it good medicine.

Dr. Cameron (aside)—Why the fellow has got hold of my secret!—(aloud) I don't think you are fit to be a physician?

Cand.—I knowes I can cure by de urine.

Pres.—I don't see why he should not have a diploma; he seems to know the art of imposing on the public, a qualification which is very needful to a fellow of our college; but I will ask the gentleman *in black* another question or two.—Pray, Mr. Lynch, do you cure stricures?

Mr. Lynch—O bless you, Massa, yes; I do like my broder, I got de secret.

Pres. (anxious.)—Well, what's that?

Cand.—Why, Massa, I gives dem horse turpentine and gin, and dat make de water come out some way or oder.

Pres. (aside.) Oh oh! he has got my way I see. Where do you mean to practice, Sir?

Cand.—Why, Massa, I take a house in de Adelphi, opposite you,



and we can do plenty business between us. When you cant cure em you send em to me, den I send em to you.

Pres.—This I cannot admit, unless you have got 200l. to give me. Have you got any money?

Cand.—O yes, Massa; me live wid bucraman, very rich bucraman, and me sail in a boat wid all his trunks; bucraman fall in de vater, me have all de money. My broder, Dr. Lynch, did de same.

Pres.—O! that's another thing. Dr. Lynch, you are as fortunate as your brother.

All.—Most honourable candidate—admit him, admit him.

The president then put it to the vote, whether Mr. Lynch be admitted to the honour of the diploma, which was accordingly agreed to *nem. con.* and the members all adjourned to Duke-street, Aldgate, to celebrate this opening by a dinner.

*[Want of space prevents our giving a report of the dinner, but next week it shall appear.]*

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

HAVING attentively examined all your Numbers of the truly estimable Medical Adviser, I was surprised you never had that torturing Cancer Quack of Conisbrough handed to you, who continues practising undisturbed, and evidently most successfully, in filling his coffers by undertaking the cure of all incurable cancers. This keen caustic gentleman, who ranks himself amongst the physical fraternity, calling himself Dr. Hall, who attends Doncaster Market every Saturday, and every succeeding Monday Rotherham; and it is truly astonishing that, from every one remaining silent in exposing this near-sighted keener, he continues gaining uncommon celebrity from ignorant people giving full credence to every asserted cure. I consider it a duty incumbent upon some one, to undertake the task, humbly submitting my feeble efforts in endeavouring to rouse some, more capable than myself, to give a fuller detail of

this man's history, &c. &c. Every warty excrescence or tumour is immediately pronounced to be an inveterate cancer, and thus he succeeds in gulling them by relating wonderful cures, and horrible cases, sending them away minus some silver, after having applied his caustic remedy to stimulate them to liberal remunerations for such kindness. I have witnessed several instances of his ignorance, his caustic applications having produced the most alarming symptoms, and most serious mischief ensued; the neighbourhood around are becoming as generally known as marked sheep, from the immense cicatrizations; a natural consequence, destroying their beautiful features unnecessarily, and rendering them most conspicuously odious; a patient of his passes you who has had a small wart upon the cheek or lip, &c. which he has most assuredly removed by eating through the cheek or lip, &c. with unlimited dimensions, some considering themselves fortunate in escaping thus disfigured. I will briefly relate a case for example, who underwent this villainous treatment:—A gentleman in the neighbourhood was suddenly seized with a severe paroxysm of the gout, with swelling in the great toe, and this monster of imbecility was consulted, when he did not hesitate a moment of deviating from his regular routine of treatment, but actually applied the caustic in sufficient quantity to destroy the whole toe, which most assuredly he must have considered an unnatural protuberance, which would, when excited, prove a cancer; the consequence was, what must readily be previously anticipated, the man's life remained a considerable time in jeopardy, this poor inflamed toe shrunk with mortification at the idea of being removed as an intruder, immediately communicated its troubles to the neighbouring sensible parts, when, after a very deliberate consultation, a resolution was proposed and sanctioned, to convince this blind disturber, Dr. Hall, by admitting erysipelatous inflammation extending itself all over that extremity; to the patient's detriment and the Quack's alarm, the bone exfoliated with a long seriously



tedious confinement; this gentleman just escaped, with life remaining, a living monument of credulity and duplicity. It is a great pity that a metastasis of Dr. Hall's toe should not be exhibited upon his forehead. More particulars relating to this infamous Quack, shall be sent, as he equally merits a place in your Medical Adviser, having practised quietly too long to remain unnoticed with impunity.

T. S. O.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*The Brighton Quack.*—The papers have called the fellow who attempted to commit a rape at Brighton, a “surgeon.” He is an atrocious quack—a private soldier, and as ignorant as he is infamous. Our readers will recollect the case we allude to, and the abominable attempt the wretch made to destroy the poor girl's character, by falsely stating that he had at former times cured her of a certain complaint! Does not this add another to the many cases which cry aloud for a law to put down quacks?

*Dempster's Case.*—A physician at Carlisle has published an account of Dempster's case, with plans, &c. for removing a knife from the stomach. We lock the stable when the horse is stolen. Why did not he operate or recommend an operation while the man lived. We suggested a plan for removing the knife, and gave our own design, as well as others, for removing it, several weeks before Dempster's death; yet the medical men either remained unacquainted with our suggestions, or

neglected them. Had he been in London instead of Carlisle, we can fairly take upon ourselves to state, that the knife should have been removed.

For the plans of instruments to extract a knife from the stomach see our tenth Number.

*Lues Venerea.*—This dreadful pest has of late years become much less frequent in its appearances; as a proof of this, the number of patients admitted to the *Hôpital des Veneriens* at Paris, this last year, is less than one half the number admitted in 1802.

*A dangerous Case.*—A regular being sent for by the late Dr. Br\*d\*m, maker of the nervous balsam, that *universal specific* and *grand salutarium*, expressed his surprise at being called on an occasion apparently trifling. “Not so trifling neither,” replied Br\*d\*m, “for, to tell you the truth, I have, by mistake, taken some of my own nervous balsam!”

*Fatal Effects of Laughing Gas.*—The foolish experiments upon the *laughing gas*, now so much in fashion, has been attended with what is not at all surprising, the death of a person who breathed a portion of it. It occurred at Bordeaux last February. We sincerely recommend the public to set their faces against further exhibition of this dangerous practice; every thing which operates upon the sensorium, so as to derange it even temporarily, is dangerous; the same quantity of this gas inhaled by different people will possess vastly different effects. One man may be but gently stimulated by it, while another, from peculiar physical construction in the brain or blood vessels, may drop down in apoplexy.

*Dr. Br\*d\*m.*—The “Times” of Wednesday last reported the death of this German gentleman; but it is not true—he is alive still, as we shall hereafter shew.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Aphorisms of Hippocrates have been concluded in our last Number. The "MEDICAL ADVISER" now contains the whole of that curious work.

C. M.'s (of Islington-road) favour is received. These placards of Jordan's shall be inserted, perhaps next week;—they out-puff all puffing.

JUN. AMICUS.—Let the man labouring under *tic douloureux* take ten drops of the *acetate of morphia* in a little water every night, and at the time he expects the paroxysm. We request to be informed the effect.

J. A. D.—The lady should continue to rest. The cold bath was wrong. Let her take no stimulating drinks;—her food is proper, but she must take no *internal* medicine. Let her use, to the parts, a decoction of oak-bark, neither hot nor cold, and add to it a little sulphate of zinc, in the proportion of a drachm to a quart. To the last question J. A. D. asks, we say, she *is not*.

A. F.—Take five grains of calomel, made into two pills, at night; the day after, take a dose of castor oil. Take no more medicine for a week, when you may repeat the dose, and then write to us.

W. P.—Use sal ammoniac in vinegar; wet the suspensory bandage with it. Do nothing else, but keep the bowels regular with castor oil or salts, and write again in a month. Do not walk much, nor sit long at a time; laying down is the best position.

D. W. P. need not dread either apoplexy nor paralytic. Perhaps shaving the head and sponging it thrice a-day with vinegar and water will do more for him than any thing else. He must wear a wig in the winter,—leave it off in the summer, when he can commence the shower bath, and use it every morning. He must keep his bowels open by tincture of senna and rhubarb every day or two.

C. F. either lives in a cold house or dresses irregularly. Attend to the warmth of the throat and feet, and put a blister on the nape of the neck.

HENRY ANSON.—Attend to your digestion; and instead of malt liquor, or grog, take only a glass or two of wine, or wine and water. Follow strictly the directions of page 338, "Medical Adviser;" but the weather now is too cold for the shower-bath, if you have not before used it. Write in a month.

J. H. L. (Leeds) put a large blister across the back of the loins, and write us the effect.

——, Soho-square, should, if he does try the chlorine, do it under the direction of a physician. His remarks shall be attended to.

CAPTAIN DERENZY'S Enchiridion has come to hand.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER, AND GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 49.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1824.

[Price 3d.



SIR MORGAN O'DOHERTY, BART. BLACK. MAG.

*Paying the Reckoning.*

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## PAYING THE RECKONING.

(See Plate.)

WHEN the punch drinkers put down their purses, and satisfy "mine host," the *reckoning* is not always fully paid,—the *apothecary* is still to come in for his share of the bowl. Look at our friend, Sir Morgan, whose portrait (with a different framing) is again given to our readers. See the aspect, how changed! The happy *spirit* of comfort which, in our last Number, lighted up his countenance, is now woefully changed for sour and *serious* looks. How he grins at his draught, and wishes, with all his Irish heart, that he had never made "*Punch to a T!*" Oh, Sir Morgan! this is the pay day; this is the reckoning—though perhaps not *all*; there are such animals as *undertakers*, and these must live. God forbid, Sir Morgan, that you should contribute, *per corpore*, to save one of them from the work-house! Yet we fear, *per anima*, you have done much to enrich that *corps*, by your *spirited* recommendation of grog.

Good Readers, take warning by the plight which this "jovial" appears now. If you regard your health, and abominate the apothecary and undertaker, oh, leave off punch!

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 292.)

IF the patient's case is one of incipient phthisis only, and his circumstances will admit of removing in due time, that is to say, on the first threatenings of the disorder, from this climate to one in which the temperature is warm during winter, he may comply therewith. The islands of Madeira and Malta, Lisbon, Italy, or the south of France, have been recommended as proper places.

To persons liable to catarrhal or consumptive complaints, the most important properties of the climates of other countries are, warmth and equability of temperature, especially

in the winter months. The islands of Madeira and Malta present, numerically, a mean temperature for the winter months, but Pisa, Nice, Villa Franca, (very near the latter,) and Hieres, are certainly the most desirable places for an invalid.

A female writer of some celebrity informs us, she is convinced by experience, that the lives of many consumptive patients might be saved were they sent by sea to Leghorn, advised to winter at Pisa, cautioned against travelling much by land, and above all things, interdicted from crossing the Apennine and Alps, which people very frequently do, in order to spend the summer months in Switzerland, one of the most unequal climates in Europe. She thinks, that in pulmonary complaints, Pisa is entitled to a decided preference over Nice, Massa, Florence, Rome, or Naples, or indeed to any other place in Europe, from the beginning of October till the end of April. She was advised to travel over land to Italy, and, therefore she passed over to France. Nice was recommended to her as the best winter climate, and she therefore spent many months in that city: but experience soon convinced her that she might have adopted a more eligible plan; for long journeys over land on the continent are to consumptive persons dangerous experiments, owing to the accommodations being so very indifferent that it is scarcely possible for an invalid to sleep at an inn out of a great town without suffering. To consumptive persons and invalids in general, she therefore recommends the going to Italy by sea in a vessel bound to Leghorn, and so wintering at Pisa.

When the patient's circumstances or business will not admit of his removing to a more temperate climate, he must endeavour to pass his winter in some place which is dry and well sheltered from cold bleak winds, where the air is free and pure, and the soil of a gravelly nature. The mild and sheltered vales of Devonshire, but more particularly Sidmouth, Torquay, and Penzance in Cornwall, offer desir-



able situations of this nature; but the latter may be considered as entitled to a decided preference.

It has indeed been thought by some as equal to any situation abroad, and, therefore, the victim to consumption will not find it necessary to fly an exile from his home and friends to seek a doubtful advantage in a foreign clime.

From a register of the weather at Penzance, by Dr. Forbes, the mildness and equability of the temperature of that country are evident. He observed the maximum temperature of July was only 78° of Fahrenheit, the minimum of December, only 33°, and the mean range of the barometer, 1.48 inches.

With the enjoyment of a free and pure air, the patient should take daily moderate exercise either in a carriage or on horseback, but more particularly the latter. By taking it in progressive journeys through different parts of the country, in fair and settled weather, the efficacy of the remedy, great as it may be at other times, would be much increased; for in such a tour the mind would find an ample store of amusement, and be diverted from any train of unpleasant thoughts. The pursuit of some object at the same time might probably add to the effect. All violent exertions, such as dancing, &c., liberties in diet, and going to crowded public places, are most cautiously to be avoided.

If the disease has made considerable progress, and the patient is thereby prevented from exposing himself out of doors during the winter and spring, he must be contented to live in chambers subject to very little change from the atmosphere, and heated from 62 to 65 degrees, which temperature will be most suitable. A stove may be employed for the purpose, and a preference should be given to one of porcelain (like the German and Russian stove,) over one of iron, as a very unpleasant smell is occasioned by the latter. Dr. Buxton is of opinion that in the common shop stove, or ironing stove used in laundries, we possess all that is ne-

cessary for the purpose of the proposed remedy.

Under the principle of amusing the mind, and at the same time of having a desirable end to be obtained, many phthisical patients are yearly sent to the Hot-wells at Bristol. The waters of these wells have long been extolled for their supposed good effect in consumptive cases; but in my humble opinion they are by no means deserving of the credit ascribed to them, as, during a residence of some time at and near these wells, I cannot charge my memory with a single instance where any person labouring under a confirmed phthisis experienced much relief from their use alone.

That many persons who have been of a phthisical habit have derived benefit from resorting to the Bristol Hot-wells, I am ready to admit; but this should not be attributed wholly to the waters. The horse exercise, which is taken daily by such patients, on a fine airy down, where most beautiful views and rich landscapes are presented to the eye on every side; the salubrity of the air; the healthfulness of the situation, and the frequent attendance on the different amusements which are furnished at these wells, and those at Clifton, prove beyond all doubt most powerful auxiliaries. Places of public resort are food to the mind of convalescents, and serve to keep it in the same active state that exercise does the body, preventing thereby that indulgence in gloomy reflection, to which the want of cheerful scenes and agreeable company is apt to give rise in those who are in an indifferent state of health.

The opinion which I have here offered on the efficacy of the Bristol Hot-wells waters, seems however by no means to accord with that entertained of them by a gentleman who some time ago published a dissertation on their chemical and medical properties. On the subject of pulmonary consumption, he observes, that the utility of a journey to Bristol, undertaken while a cure is yet practicable, is demonstrated by



hundreds of examples annually, where the disease is prevented in many, and suspended or mitigated in others. I agree, however, with Dr. Beddoes, that the fine things which medical men put into their pamphlets about the water of the places where they constantly or occasionally reside, are to be received with a large share or weight of allowance. Nay, I am decidedly of opinion, that at least three-fourths of the cures attributed to all mineral waters, ought rather to be placed to the account of a difference in air, exercise, diet, amusement of the mind, and the regulations productive of greater temperance, than to any salutary or efficacious properties in the waters themselves.

Respecting the composition of the Bristol water, it appears, from Dr. Carrick's experiments, to consist of the following principles: a wine gallon of 231 inches is impregnated with

Muriated magnesia	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ grains.
Muriated soda - -	4
Vitriolated soda -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Vitriolated lime -	11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Carbonated lime -	13 $\frac{1}{2}$

---

Making together of  
solid matter - 47 $\frac{3}{4}$  grains.

---

Carbonic acid gas - 30 cub. inch.  
Respirable air - - 3

---

Making together of  
gaseous fluids - 33 cub. inch.

---

On the supposed virtues of this water in phthisis, there has indeed prevailed much diversity of opinion, and many have denied that it possesses any peculiar power superior to simple water. Dr. Saunders thinks, that although it is by no means a cure for consumption, still it will be found to alleviate some of the most harassing symptoms in this formidable disease. He observes, it is particularly efficacious in moderating the thirst, the dry burning heat of the hands and feet, the partial night-sweats, and the symptoms that are peculiarly hectic; and thus, in the early stages of phthisis

it may probably contribute to a re-establishment of health; and even in the latter periods it may considerably relieve, when the prospect of a cure has long been doubtful, if not hopeless.

Short voyages on sea have been much recommended to consumptive persons, under the idea that sailing is of all modes of exercise or conveyance the smoothest and most constant. The good effects produced by sea voyages seem to depend, however, chiefly on the purity of the air, assisted somewhat probably by the occasional vomiting, which persons unaccustomed to be on board of a ship usually experience.

Swinging is another species of exercise much recommended to phthisical patients. The use of what are called dumb bells might perhaps likewise prove serviceable.

To remove inflammation from the lungs, and prevent the tubercles from proceeding to suppuration, the application of a blister will be highly proper; and that it may be rendered perpetual, it should be shifted from the chest to the side, and from the side to the chest, whenever the discharge ceases to be plentiful. Issues or a seton are frequently inserted in the side, or between the scapulæ; and in cases of incipient phthisis sometimes produce a good effect. Topical bleedings, by means of leeches and cupping, might likewise be resorted to with advantage in this stage of the disease. Both blisters and topical bleedings will afford considerable relief where there is a fixed pain in the breast or sides, which is increased upon coughing.

Previously to the tubercles becoming much inflamed, perhaps they may be relieved, or be entirely removed by a solution of the muriate of lime, beginning with a drachm a day, and gradually increasing the dose.

On the recommendation of Dr. Beddoes, factitious airs some years back were employed in the early stage of phthisis, and as auxiliaries, they undoubtedly proved serviceable; but from their virtues having



been overrated, and almost sole dependance placed upon them in many cases, they fell into disrepute, and other remedies have been substituted in a very rapid succession. Oxygen reduced by an addition of hydrogen, and other aerial fluids, with carbonic acid gas, are those which were chiefly used. With these the air of a room may easily be impregnated by means of the apparatus invented by Mr. Watt, of Birmingham.

(*To be continued.*)

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### RELIGIOUS INDIGESTION.

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WE have in former Numbers shewn, that one of the main causes of indigestion is a depression of spirits;—we have physically explained by what means it operates in producing it. If, then, a depressed state of the mind occasion this destroyer of the roots of life—for so it may well be called—ought we not to abolish every law or custom which may have a direct tendency to a general gloom? Thank God we have not many! but amongst those we *have*, stands pre-eminent the custom of *groaning* away our *Sundays*. We beg it to be understood, that we do not find fault with public worship, nor do we rise up against any sect of religion. We do not wish to prevent, by our advice, any one from enjoying their full measure of devotion, but we oppose the pernicious habit of making the Lord's day a day of hypochondriasm and horrors. Cheerfulness is not only good for the soul, and recommended by the holy writers, but it is good and necessary to the health of the body. Why, then, make it by habit a crime to be so upon a Sunday? The English and Scotch are the only people on the face of the earth that will not hear music on the Sabbath. If you sing in London on that day, you are, in the opinion of those who hear you, a reprobate; but if you play the fiddle, unless it be some suicidal-sounding psalm, you are

damned! The cause of this disease of the body is a disease of the mind; it arises from an ultra-devotion, and a mistake of the principle on which the custom of restricting music is founded. The Puritans began it, and the present saints keep it rigorously up. The real meaning of the restriction is to prevent reveling and debauch; it never intended to oppose a little rational music, or even a dance in a family circle; but the human mind is in itself so ductile, that it cannot take upon itself any action enthusiastically without *going to extremes*. The English people will not sing nor dance on a Sunday, forsooth, yet they get beastly drunk! A man that wont listen to a sweet ballad from his daughter, will go out to a public house, and there smoke and drink until he cannot see his way home. What is a more miserable sight than London on a Sunday?—Moping—melancholy—bells—long faces—and perhaps rainy weather! Oh! France, Spain, Italy, Germany, and Ireland, you manage those things better! There, the morning and part of the evening are devotion, but the other parts of the day are passed in recreative merriment; all forget their labour, and enjoy themselves, thus, as it were, *winding up*, once a-week, the loosened wheels of their health:—but England!—oh, it is no wonder we have a dyspeptic population,—no wonder we have hypochondriacs, and no wonder we have suicides. If the ministers of the gospel have a true regard for their flocks, they will immediately expound the true nature of a Sunday's enjoyment, and in doing that, recommend both music and dancing in family circles. They know that this cannot be morally wrong,—they are not physicians; and when they are told by those who *are*, that the health of their people would be improved by this means, we say *they are bound to recommend it*.

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*Low Spirits, Melancholy, and  
Suicide of November.*

THE approaching month is the season for hypochondriasm; and by the present state of the weather, and the foregoing months of the year, it promises to be gloomy, moist and oppressive. Many think that it is some specific influence in this month that affects the mind—some contagious matter, or some astrological influence, that brings so much into demand ropes, rivers, and razors; but this is not the case; mere weather never produced, by material contact, melancholy or suicide. The Swedes, whose winter is long, dreary, foggy, moist and cold, do not hang and drown themselves like the English; they enjoy themselves in domestic circles. Therefore we must look to other causes than mere *weather* or *season* for this prevalence of melancholy. Our opinion is this:—The English people, from extensive commerce, and its associations, have their minds occupied with important matters. If things go on well with them, they are as merry in November as in June; but amongst so vast a population, many must naturally be embarrassed in those matters; and although the same embarrassment exist in June, yet that month (provided it be not like our last), from its beauty and brilliancy, tends to keep them from brooding on their troubles. The sun laughs on the land, and the land throws gladly back the smile; friends ask to dinner friends, and country excursions are the consequence; maids are dressed and decked “all in their flaunting braverie;” new clothes sparkle, flowers spring up, birds sing, and all nature dances. But in November, gloom hangs on the house-top, the sun is seldom seen; it comes like a funeral treading on the heels of a wedding-day: it is not day; nor is it night, but a murky, dull, miserable gloom. In this weather, when men have little, if any enjoyment in the day, is it to be wondered that the mind should fall back to that reflection which so heavily may press it down. This is the secret of November melan-

choly—the weather gives no opportunity to avoid the mental fiend; but on the contrary, is most congenial to its presence. Night, of course, may bring some little better opportunities of drinking Lethe’s water, but this water is too frequently mixed with wine, spirits, and malt liquor, which banish for the time all unpleasant reflections, but leave, next morning, a depressed and unhappy mind; no exercise is taken. All these circumstances combining, produce indigestion and bilious affections, which terminate in fixed melancholy and perhaps suicide.

Besides the embarrassments arising from commerce, the mind often suffers from others, amongst which stand, unhappily pre eminently, a depression of heart, brought on by *early excesses* \* of a peculiar nature, or rather, a repining at the loss which those excesses have occasioned to man, even in mature age, and otherwise apparent health. All griefs, let them arise from what source they may, are heightened by gloom and solitude; hence, November is the month for melancholy, for the reasons mentioned above.

*What is the remedy?* Alas! alas! Where is the physician of the mind? Who can “minister to a mind diseased?”

Well, if we cannot be physicians to the mind, we can affect that mind through the treatment of the body considerably, and thereby give it every chance of restoring itself. This is to be done by coming as near, or substituting the habits of June, as November will permit; for instance, having washed the head, mouth, and teeth well, sponged and dry-rubbed the body all over, and eaten a comfortable breakfast of chocolate, or eggs and coffee, we should ride or walk out, if possible, either on a visit or on some business; take a glass of wine while out; engage in

\* We are now preparing for publication a few sheets that we trust will speak consolation to the afflicted in this way, and also what yet has not been done in those works that profess to do it, that is—TRUTH. We hope to open men’s eyes upon the subject. Obvious reasons prevent us from publishing on this subject in the MEDICAL ADVISER.



conversation with friends, and read the papers of the day (among which, *of course*, we strenuously recommend the "MEDICAL ADVISER," and particularly the ANNALS OF QUACKERY, which will make them laugh, as well as prevent them from swallowing poison). Then dine—and always with a friend, if possible, who is a "merry soul and kind;" a glass of wine after it, or good grog, with a cigar. Then having taken a cup of good strong French made coffee, or English made tea, go to the theatre—but not to a murdering melo-drame; see a good comedy, or opera, or farce, and laugh at it. After the theatre, do not sit up late, but having taken a few oysters, a glass of stout, and another cigar, go to bed. This is the way to avoid moping and fretting, as regards regimen. As for medicine, the following will be found of great benefit:—Take of blue pill five grains at night; next morning either a dose of salts or of senna to work it off. No more medicine for two days, when you must regularly swallow from five to ten grains of rhubarb, *every day*, about eleven or twelve o'clock, with five grains of ginger, so as to keep up one motion regularly every day. The blue pill must be resorted to again in a fortnight, and so on, until health and spirits be restored. If the appetite be bad, a spoonful of the decoction of bark, acidulated with sulphuric acid, taken every morning, in addition to the other medicine, will be found of great benefit. If this plan, followed for two months, do not remove melancholy and its horrible accompaniments, then set the MEDICAL ADVISER down, and never read another line of it.

## CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD.

*By Mr. Charles Bell.*

NATURE, disregarding all occasional supplies, as by the absorption of the skin, the assimilation of aliments, &c., has appointed one great organ for the oxygenation of the blood,

viz. the lungs. In opening the breast of a living creature we best see the connection of respiration with the great system; but it is out of the body that we can best understand its particular effects upon the blood.

The most obvious effect of air is its heightening the colour of the blood. If we expose blood to fixed air, or azotic air, it continues dark; these fluids communicate nothing, they have no effect on the colour of the blood: when we expose blood to atmospheric air, it assumes a florid colour; for in the atmosphere there is a large proportion of oxygen gas: if, lastly, we expose it to oxygen gas, the purest of all air, as chemists would formerly have expressed themselves, it grows extremely florid; and whenever it changes its colour, it is by absorbing oxygen, for it reduces in the same proportion the quantity of air; what it absorbs is the oxygen, that air which is necessary to life; what it leaves is mephitic, unfit for combustion or animal life.

Blood, when exposed to the air, becomes red chiefly on the surface; it remains black beneath, but by turning up the clot to the air, all the surfaces become red. If air be blown into a tied vein, the blood which was black in the vein becomes florid; and when the air is pressed out again, it becomes black. If the air-pump be exhausted over a dish of blood, the blood becomes dark in the vacuum; and it becomes florid when the air is allowed to rush in again. If you expose blood in a moist bladder, the blood is oxygenated through the walls of the bladder; which brings this experiment as close as may be to the phenomenon of blood oxygenated through the cells of the air vesicles of the lungs, and through the coats of the blood vessels which circulate the blood upon those air vesicles.

When we open a frog, or newt, or other amphibious creature, we see a long and slender artery accompanied by a slender vein, running from top to bottom along the whole surface of the lungs; and while the heart continues to beat, we see this pulmonic artery black, the



vein-red, the lungs themselves most delicate and pellucid, like the swimming bladder of a fish: even in the extremities of the human system the blood of a vein is dark, of an artery red; so that surgeons distinguish venous and arterial hæmorrhages in this way.

From these facts we may understand why the blood of the womb, of sinuses, of varices, and of all stagnant veins, is so dark; and why that blood is so very pure and florid which is coughed up from the lungs. Is not the face livid in apoplexies or strangulation, in hanging or drowning, in fits of passion or of coughing, or in any accident which interrupts the lungs? The face of a child, during a paroxysm of the whooping cough, is it not black? Is not the hand livid when the arm is compressed or tied up, and its blood prevented from returning to the lungs and heart? Are not tumours dark coloured from dilated veins which return their blood too slowly? The first effect of oxygenation is a reddening of the blood. The menstrual blood, the blood of ecchymosis, (as in those who have been whipt,) the blood of aneurismal bags, are all black; and the blood of varices is so very black, that the ancients said they were filled with atrabilis or black bile. The stripes inflicted on a soldier as a punishment, are at first of the most lively red, but soon become black.

The next effect of oxygenation is the endowing the blood with a peculiar power, by which it is continually operating upon the living solid: this is a power which it is continually losing; which it is every moment giving up to the solids; and which no other process but respiration can restore. This stimulant power the blood gradually loses as it circulates round the body; it is quite effete when it returns to the right side of the heart: the heart of a creature never moves, if we allow its lungs to lie collapsed; but the heart returns to act the very instant that pure air is forced into the lungs, and so communicated to the blood. This stimulant power is most of all apparent when we force a living creature to breathe

nothing but the purest air; for oxygenated or vital air makes this process too rapid; the pulse rises, the eyes become red and prominent, the creature seems drunk with the new stimulus, too great for its system. The universal heat of its body is greatly increased, the eyes are turgid and red, and at last a sweat breaks forth all over it; and when dead, the lungs (it is said) are mortified or inflamed. But whatever the marks are, whether these signs of inflammation be really true, it is plain, since the creature dies, that pure air is fatal by a too rapid oxygenation of the blood. If, in our experiments upon a dying animal, we inflate the lungs with mephitic air, the heart does not act; if we inflate its lungs with common air, the heart begins to act; if we inflate its lungs with oxygen air, the heart is irritated to a still more powerful action.

If we open the breast of a frog, and stop its breathing, we observe, first, its pulmonic blood florid, and the heart beating strongly; secondly, in half an hour the pulmonic blood has become dark, and the heart's motion has grown languid; in a little while the pulmonic blood becomes black, and the pulsation of the heart ceases; and, lastly, the trachea of the frog being untied, and the creature allowed to breathe again, the blood becomes florid, and the heart acts.

We have stated the facts regarding this matter, as they have been brought forward, and as they appear. But a closer inspection of the phenomena will probably shew that the oxygen is not in these instances the stimulus. But that the change produced upon the blood in respiration, makes that fluid more capable of supplying the irritability of the muscular fibre, and consequently of adding power to the heart. The load of carbon which the venous blood carries back from the circulation of the body, makes it incapable of adding to the irritability or contractile power of muscles. But when, by purification in the lungs, that carbon is carried off in form of carbonic acid gas, the colour of the



blood is restored, and with it new powers.

By these views, the facts stated above have a new light thrown on them, the heart does not become weak, because the black blood is not stimulant, but because being black, and loaded with carbon, it is incapable of supporting the irritability of the muscular fibres of the heart.

### SCURVY.

SCURVY is not what people generally think it is. The true form of the disease is seldom met with, except on board ship, in prisons, or amongst people long habituated to live upon meat without vegetables. It is a constitutional disease, and not, as is imagined, a mere blotched surface. The following case is from a French record:—

*A new and extraordinary kind of Scurvy.*

THE director of the Hôtel Dieu, being apprised of the great number of sick that daily crowded the hospital, and apprehending the consequence of their spreading an infection, removed those to another hospital which is without the city of Paris, where M. Poupert then attended; he soon perceived that this distemper had a great analogy with that cruel plague the Athenians were sorely afflicted with.

These in common with all scorbutics, complained of pains in their thighs, in the calves of their legs, belly and stomach; they lost the use of their limbs, though they retained their feelings; they had headaches and convulsions; their gums itched greatly and were so rotten, as to come in pieces in their fingers; the blood oozing from them was both watery, brackish, and corrosive; the stench from their breath was intolerable; they had hard, blue spots on their thighs and legs; blood came from both their nose and anus; whenever they attempted to move, they tottered, so weak were they.—The particular symptoms were, a small clattering noise of the bones upon the least motion, which N. V.

physician at Rochelle, takes notice of in his treatise on the scurvy, but confesses he could not assign the true cause of it; in all those in whom the aforesaid noise was heard, the epiphyses were entirely separated from the bones; these epiphyses, rubbing against the bones, occasioned the above clattering noise; in some a low noise was heard, upon drawing in of their breath; in these the cartilages were found separated from the ribs, but as the cartilages are softer than the epiphyses, so the noise they made was lower, or less; these all died to one; such as had pus or serum in their lungs had the cartilages separated from the ribs; these were various four inches of their length, which shews how corrosive all their juices were; most of those that were opened had their bones both black and various; why all scorbutics walk staggering, has not been hitherto well understood; the strength of the joints is in proportion to the spring of the ligaments, that connect these joints; but as the ligaments were here partly corroded, by that caustic lymph, and as the epiphyses were separated from the bones, the spring or strength of those ligaments must necessarily be weakened; the sick must consequently walk tottering.—All under eighteen had their epiphyses separated; at that age the epiphyses are not so closely united as in a more advanced age; the bones were here twice as big as in a natural state, owing to their being soaked in that caustic lymph, which swelled and distended their fibres; and such as recovered had them swelled for a long time after without any inconvenience, because they might grow less in time, as those in ricketty children are known to do; such as had a difficulty of breathing, or were otherwise oppressed, had pus or serum in the cavity of the thorax; and the lungs were more or less full of the same; others were so oppressed as to die suddenly; and yet there was no serum found in either the thorax or lungs; all that was found was adhesions of the pericardium to the lungs, and of these to the plura and



diaphragm, which gave all those parts the appearance only of one confused mass or substance; all these parts being ulcerated, they easily adhered to each other; the lungs in such a case, could not expand themselves, suffocation, and death must unavoidably ensue. The mesenteric glands in all scorbutics are found tumefied; but they were here impostsuinated; the liver in many was partly rotten, and in some the pus in it was petrescied; the spleen was three times bigger than what is natural; and fell to pieces upon handling it, as so much clotted blood would; in some the kidneys and lungs were full of impostsuines; in all under fifteen, when one pressed the ribs, a good deal of corrupted matter issued forth; it was the spongy substance of these ribs; for all that remained was the two bony plates only. All the appearances of the scurvy in others were only some light ulceration of the gums, but in some time after there appeared hard tumors on their hands, instep, and other parts of the body; and in their groin and arm-pits several large abscesses, with blue spots all over the body; these were sure harbingers of death; all these had the glands of the arm-pits swelled, and surrounded with pus; the muscles likewise of both their arms and thighs were swelled, and their interstices filled with pus; some had their arms, thighs and legs of a dark red colour; owing to blood extravasated under the skin; their muscles were so hard, that their limbs could not be extended; the spots of different colours observed in scorbutic bodies, such as blue, red, yellow and black, are owing to the same extravasated blood; when the spots are red, the blood is then alone; but when it is coagulated the spots are then black; and when the bile is mixed with it, the spots are of a dark yellow; others had some small tumors, which daily increased, and when opened, coagulated blood only was found; however by often renewing the dressings these tumors were at length dried up, and the patients recovered; some very old folks had such violent

hemorrhages from both their nose and mouth, that they died, it being impossible to stop it. All owing to the great acrimony of their lymph, which corroded their vessels. For the blood of old folks is naturally thin and watery, whereas that of the young is not, and for that reason they are not so subject to those hemorrhages; however, some of both sexes, young and old, had such violent fluxes, that carried off the weakest; but such as had strength to bear it, recovered; others again were so costive, as to require clysters; others were swelled all over their bodies, hands, arms, &c., these were cured by physic, clysters and sweetening juleps; a boy of ten years old had his gums greatly swelled and ulcerated; his teeth were loose and rotten; these were obliged to be taken out to deterge his mouth; his breath stunk immoderately; when his gums were healed, there appeared on one side of his tongue a little tumor, and in some time after another on his cheek; both these tumors became ulcers; he died at last when least suspected; upon opening him, all his inward parts were found rotten. Such as died suddenly, without any visible cause, the auricles of their hearts were found as big as one's fist, and full of a coagulated blood; which suddenly intercepting the circulation, death must necessarily ensue.

Many had a little white and hard ulcer on the cheek, which, if not timely kept down with caustics, would soon spread and become livid, black, and fetid, corroding the cheek, so as to leave all the teeth bare.

Many between eighteen and thirty were quite stupid, and without motion, with their mouths open, their eyes sunk into the sockets, their looks frightful, appearing more like statues than men; these had no other appearance of illness than ulcerated gums: their skin was smooth and fair, without either spot or hardness, yet upon handling them their muscles were all mortified, and upon opening them, would fall to pieces; one man had a carbuncle on his instep; his lips, and the grisly parts of his nose, were chopped; a stinking water constantly trickled from his



nose; he lingered on a great while, but died at last; his body became so frightful that nobody would venture to open it.

A young man, who did not appear to be very ill, died suddenly; upon opening him, the pericardium was quite consumed, and the heart was all round deeply ulcerated.

Scorbutic folks are generally better in summer than in winter, owing to a freer discharge by the skin, which carries off a good deal of the salts out of the blood. Here it was the reverse; they were tolerably well from April till June, the spots, hardness, and other symptoms had already disappeared; but upon the approach of the hot weather, all the former symptoms returned; many that were able to go out relapsed; their thighs and legs became black, and many of them died, all owing to the great quantity of acrid lymph, which could not be entirely carried off by the skin; the succeeding great heat put this acrid lymph into motion, destroying the parts, producing abscesses and ulcers, and all the other appearances above mentioned.

All these poor people ate greedily to the last, so great was the acrimony of their gastric juices, as to excite this canine appetite.

Long abstinence is known to destroy the crisis of the blood; bad food is still more capable of doing it; cold, by checking perspiration, and coagulating the blood, disposes it to stagnate in its vessels, and from its natural tendency to corruption, soon sours, and corrupts. Grief and sadness, which accompany these evils, contribute more than all other causes to increase their misery. But where all these causes concurred, it is easily seen how capable they were to produce the above caustic lymph; so caustic was this lymph, that the skin peeled off the surgeon's hands who opened the dead bodies; his face was likewise ulcerated, so as to oblige him to rise often in the night to wash and cool it; but what was very extraordinary, the brain of these poor people was always sound and entire.

*Antidotes to the Poison of Arsenic, and Tests of Detecting it in the Stomach.*

VARIOUS methods of counteracting the poison of arsenic have been recommended. Whatever antidote is adopted, the stomach should, in all cases, be immediately evacuated: and the best mode of doing this is by administering large draughts of tepid mucilaginous fluids. In order to render the arsenic inert, solutions of the alkaline sulphurets, and vinegar, have been advised; but the experiments of Renault have demonstrated how little reliance is to be placed on these articles. Hahnemann orders one pound of soap to be dissolved in four pounds of water, and a cupful taken, tepid, every three or four minutes; and as this is the antidote most readily procured, if lime-water or chalk and water cannot be at hand, it should always be the first employed. Lime-water proves useful by coating the particles of the arsenic with an arseniate of lime, which is insoluble, and consequently inert. Dr. Yelloly, reasoning on the probability that the inflammation induced is often the cause of death, even after the stomach is freed from the whole of the poison, suggests the propriety of early blood-letting in these cases.

As medical men are often called upon in courts of law to establish the fact of white oxide of arsenic having been used as a poison, it is necessary to know the best tests by which it may be recognised. If on searching in the stomach, or among its vomited contents, any considerable quantity of the suspected poison be discovered, a little of it must be mixed with three times its weight of black flux, composed of one part of finely powdered charcoal, and two parts of dry carbonate of potass; or, to a grain of the poison add half a grain of charcoal, and a grain of dried carbonate of potass. These must be put into a thin glass tube, about eight inches in length and one fourth of an inch in diameter, hermetically closed at one end, and thinly coated with a mixture of pipe-clay and



sand. The open extremity must then be slightly plugged with a piece of paper (taking care to clean the upper portion of the tube by means of a feather,) and the tube kept for a quarter of an hour in a well-burnt coal fire; when, if the powder introduced into the tube contain arsenic, metallic arsenic will sublime and be found lining with brilliant crust the inside of the tube. That it was arsenic may be further proved by volatilizing a small portion of the reduced metal on a red-hot iron, and observing whether it presents the garlic odour peculiar to the vapour of metallic arsenic. The white oxide may also be detected in the following manner. Mix some of the suspected matter with the black flux; place the mixture between two pieces of polished copper; and after binding them tightly together with iron wire, place them in an ordinary fire: if oxide of arsenic be present, a white stain will be left on the surface of the copper, which is an alloy of metallic arsenic and the copper.

When the poison is found in very small quantity only, let it be dissolved in two drachms of hot rain or distilled water, with three grains of subcarbonate of potass, or, what is to be preferred, the subcarbonate of ammonia; then add to this a warm solution of five grains of sulphate of copper, which will produce a lively grass-green precipitate if arsenic be present. When no powder is discovered in the stomach, its contents and the vomited matter must be washed with hot water, and filtered, carbonate of potass added to the filtered fluid, and then a warm solution of the sulphate of copper, as above described. A still more delicate test than any of these already mentioned has been proposed by Mr. Hume: one part of the suspected poison, and three parts of subcarbonate of potass, are to be dissolved in a sufficient quantity of rain or distilled water at  $212^{\circ}$ ; and the surface of this solution slightly touched with a piece of nitrate of silver. If oxide of arsenic be present, a sulphur-yellow coloured pre-

cipitate will be seen falling rapidly from the point where the nitrate is applied. In our experiments we have found that the sixtieth part of a grain of the oxide is clearly discovered in two ounces of water by this test. All these experiments should be performed in the day time, and the precipitated fluid examined by reflected, not transmitted light.—Objections have been raised against this test, because the presence of the alkaline phosphates in the suspected fluid would produce precipitates of a similar colour with nitrate of silver; and if muriate of soda, or of any other alkali, were present, the test could not be employed, on account of the copious precipitates which these produce with the nitrate. The first objection is obviated by making the trial on paper, as recommended by Dr. Paris: Drop a little of the suspected fluid on writing-paper, and draw several times over it a stick of lunar caustic; which if arsenic be present, will leave a streak of colour, that becomes a very bright queen's yellow, if brushed with some liquid ammonia, which continues unchanged; but if no arsenic be present, and only alkaline phosphates, the streak will be uniform, and in a few minutes fade into a sad green, and gradually become black. Dr. Marcet has shown us how to obviate the difficulty with regard to the muriates, by adding to the suspected fluid dilute nitric acid, and then to apply the nitrate of silver to its surface until no more precipitation is produced; by which means the whole of the muriatic acid is removed: and as the arseniate of silver remains in solution, it is rendered evident by a yellow precipitate being instantly formed on the addition of ammonia.—But the great difficulty is to detect the presence of the poison in the stomach. Besides examining the contents of this viscus by filtration and dilution, if no arsenic can be detected, Orfila advises the viscus to be cut in pieces and separately examined, by boiling them in water and testing the decoction. In this case, the best test is to pass a current of sulphuretted



hydrogen gas through the filtered decoction, which will diffuse a fine yellow colour in the fluid if any arsenious acid be present. If no colour appear, which may occur, although the arsenious acid be in the decoction, owing to the presence of phosphate of soda, the addition of very dilute pure nitric acid will produce it.

When any of the vehicle in which the poison has been exhibited can be procured, more satisfactory results will be obtained from the examination of it, than from that of the contents of the stomach. If it be found in the form of powder, the most satisfactory proof is that of reducing this to the metallic form, as already described; but if the whole of the arsenic be dissolved, it must then be tried by different re-agents. One of the simplest methods which I have tried is the following. Into the suspected solution stir a moderate quantity of charcoal powder; allow it to settle; then pour off the clear supernatant fluid, or filter the mixture; and when the powder which remains on the filter is dry, sprinkle some of it on a red hot poker: if the solution contain arsenic, the odour of garlic will be rendered sensible. This effect becomes more obvious if a few grains of dried subcarbonate of potass be added to the dried charcoal powder. The results from no single test should, however, be relied upon: and a knowledge of the appearances produced by the four principal re-agents usually employed for the detection of arsenic, must greatly facilitate such an examination.

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### POISONOUS CUSTARD.

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THE leaves of the cherry laurel, a poisonous plant, have a nutty flavour, resembling that of the kernels of peach-stones, or of bitter almonds, which to most palates is grateful. These leaves have for many years been in use among cooks, to communicate an almond or kernel-like flavour to

custards, puddings, creams, *blanc-mange*, and other delicacies of the table.

It has been asserted that the laurel poisons and other articles of cookery, is, on account of its being used in very small quantities, quite harmless. To refute this assertion, numerous instances might be cited, and, among them, a recent one, in which four children suffered severely, from partaking of custard flavoured with the leaves of this poisonous plant:—

“Several children at a boarding-school in the vicinity of Richmond, having partaken of some custard flavoured with the leaves of the cherry laurel, as is frequently practised by cooks, one of the poor innocents was taken severely ill in consequence. Two of them, a girl six years of age, and a boy five years old, fell into a profound sleep, out of which they could not be roused.

“Notwithstanding the various medical exertions used, the boy remained in a stupor ten hours, and the girl nine hours; the other two, one of which was six years old, a girl, and a girl of seven years, complained of severe pains in the epigastric region. They all recovered, after three days' illness. I am anxious to communicate to you this fact, being convinced that your publication is read at all the scholastic establishments in this part of the country. I hope you will allow these lines a corner in your *Literary Chronicle*, where they may contribute to put the unwary on their guard, against the deleterious effects of flavouring culinary dishes with that baneful herb, the cherry laurel. I am, with respect, your's, Sir, THOMAS LIDIARD.”

What person of sense or prudence, then, would trust to the discretion of an ignorant cook, in mixing so dangerous an ingredient in his puddings and creams? Who but a maniac would choose to season his victuals with poison?

The water distilled from cherry laurel leaves is frequently mixed with brandy and other spirituous liquors, to impart to them the flavour of the cordial called *noyau*.



This fluid, though long in frequent use, as a flavouring substance, was not known to be poisonous until the year 1728; when the sudden death of two women in Dublin, after drinking some of the common distilled cherry laurel water, demonstrated its deleterious nature.

#### *Adulteration of Rhubarb Powder, Ipecacuanha, &c.*

IT is notorious that there are manufacturers of spurious rhubarb powder, ipecacuanha powder, James's powder, and other simple and compound medicines of great potency, who carry on their diabolical trade on an amazingly large scale. Indeed the quantity of medical preparations thus sophisticated exceeds belief. Cheapness, and not genuineness and excellence, is the grand desideratum with the unprincipled dealers in drugs and medicines.

Those who are familiar with chemistry may easily convince themselves of the existence of the fraud, by subjecting to a chemical examination either spirits of hartshorn, magnesia, calcined magnesia, calomel, or any other chemical preparation in general demand.

#### *Adulteration of Spirit of Hartshorn, and Method of Detecting it.*

SPIRIT of hartshorn is counterfeited by mixing liquid caustic ammonia with the distilled spirit of hartshorn, to increase the pungency of its odour, and to enable it to bear an addition of water.

The fraud is detected by adding spirit of wine to the sophisticated spirit; for if no considerable coagulation ensues, the adulteration is proved. It may also be discovered by the hartshorn spirit not producing a brisk effervescence when mixed with muriatic or nitric acid.

#### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Swallowing a Frog's Heart, while the Frog be yet alive, to cure Fits.*

This is a brutal and useless practice.

*Three Drops of a Black Tom Cat's Ear, for the same purpose.*

Equally barbarous and useless. We have seen a cat belonging to a family, in which is a person afflicted with epileptic fits, whose ear is cut to pieces with repeated trials of this absurdity. People have come miles and miles to have the creature's blood.

#### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A good Wash for a Blotched Face.*

Of rose water, six ounces;

Sulphate of zinc, two drachms.

Mix.—Wet the face with it, gently dry it, and then touch it over with cold cream, which also dry gently off.

*Another, if that fail.*

Of rose water, the same quantity,

Muriate of mercury, ten grains.

Use the cold cream as before.



#### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

\*\*\* We are obliged to postpone the Report of the Dinner of the New College, our reporter having been waylaid by one of the members, who picked his pocket of the report. We have since obtained it, but too late for press.

#### THE JORDANS.

WE caution our Manchester friends against these itinerant fellows: we see by the Manchester Guardian,



that they have an "*establishment*" there. Their advertisement takes up a *whole column*. What dupes men are to pay by their stupidity and credulity these ignorant old clothes men, for travelling all over England, and paying such sums for advertisements. Are the people of Manchester mad!—to entrust their safety to such ignorant schemers? Cordial Balm of Rakasiri! *Nature's Restorative*.—The hum-buggers—this "*restorative*" as they call it was made up by a Jew, of the name of Oliver, who out of a drunken frolic, told this *Jordan* that if he would advertise a balm, he would give it to him for a round of grog for the company—and it was dear at the price, God knows; for Oliver confessed it was only an *aromatic tincture and syrup*. The man is dead now, or we could prove this by his own testimony, which he would not refuse us.

It is time to put down these fellows; they have been "done up" in London by our exertions, and we hope the country will follow the example.

#### DR. LAING,

WE have received many letters about this gentleman, stating many things, which as yet we will not publish.

We have ascertained beyond a doubt, that he cures by "*the water*," that he also "cures" by *staring in the face*, and that he makes up his own stuff called medicine. This is enough for the present: he may have a sort of diploma, but the practice is what proves the practitioner.



#### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*Singular Suicide*.—Mons. Bartholet, the son of the great chemist, a

young man of great literary acquirements, lately put an end to his existence in the following philosophical manner. He lighted a pan of charcoal in his apartment, closed up every crevice so as to keep out the air, and sat himself coolly down to write the gradual effects of the fatal effluvia. He was found stretched upon the floor dead. The latter part of his writing was illegible, so that he in all probability continued writing while nearly insensible or suffocating!

*Dr. Haig*.—This gentleman lately died at Dublin. He was many years surgeon to the forces. He inoculated the Dey of Algiers, at a time that failure would have produced his destruction.—A drawn scymetar was held over his head while operating.

*Extraordinary Child*.—There is within a mile of Sheffield, on the Doncaster road, a child of eight years old, belonging to a grinder of the name of Smith, who has been blind since birth, yet can tell almost any colour by the touch, particularly in silk goods.

*Adulteration of Bread*.—A physician (Dr. Manning,) has published a pamphlet, in which he states that chronic diseases and sudden deaths are become far more prevalent than formerly, and that the cause lies in the adulteration of bread. Bean meal, chalk, whiting, slaked lime, alum and bone ashes, he has found mixed in bread, and of late *jalap*, he says has been added to counteract the astringent effects of the other ingredients. "The consequences," says the author, "are terrible, and it cannot be doubted that the legislature will take the public cause into consideration."

The offence deserves no mercy, because it admits no excuse of accident; nor any temptation except the highway-man's cause,—the plundering of the public.

These remarks of Dr. Manning are just, but we do not think that chronic diseases and sudden deaths are caused alone by adulterated bread; but the combined effects of *imitation teas* and *drugged beer*.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

L. T. Y. foment the parts, poultice and keep the bowels free for a week, rest is necessary. Write in a fortnight.

ANNE R. of Hereford, gratifies us much by the intelligence that she is recovered. If not too much trouble, we would request her to forward to us an account of the treatment we ordered.

Gout shall be soon treated on. Spirits and water in moderation, and smoking will not injure in the habit mentioned.

M. H. A remedy for chaps on the hands next week.

J. B. whose appetite and health are injured by Jordan's Rakasiri, will find benefit by taking the acidulated decoction of bark, a spoonful in the morning, and to take once a week, five grains of blue pill at night, and half an ounce of salts next morning.—Write again in a month.

M. B. Has no syphilitic complaint, he is fretting himself to death for nothing. He may get married with safety, that is GOOD NEWS for him.

How is A. S. of ——— Street Soho?

S. C. touch the warts with *lapis infernalis* well, then put over them sticking plaster, and leave it on a week; this may be repeated.

X. *Editor of a daily paper*, is informed that we KNEW NOTHING OF THE AFFAIR. We think he is unjust and intemperate.

JOHN KITCHEN shall have a letter.

J. G. is not so near his grave as he thinks. We are glad the medicine has relieved him. Let him continue the powders and keep from cold. Write in a fortnight.

T. S. O. next week.

THOMAS POWEL, DOCK HEAD, is not we trust in a consumption. We have something private to say, let him say where to address a letter.

J. J. J. we will not be backward.

A MUSICIAN—foment the parts every night with warm water, for a fortnight; during which time take two doses of castor oil.—Write then.

W. C.—The decoction of bark acidulated, taken every morning, first having lost sixteen ounces of blood, will serve.—Write again.

BOTANUS.—We mean to commence very soon the medical plants. Hill's Herbal will answer his purpose.

If Miss A. of Leeds, has received no answer, let her send her case again.

L. J. It is the effect of fatigue. Rest and keep on the bandage; you may bathe the part with warm goulard water, twice a day. Senna tea with a little mauna to regulate her bowels.

IF MR. COLES had confined his treatise to the truss, and not touched on *disease*, he would have done better.

## ERRATA IN OUR LAST.

"In punch to a T." page 290,—for "dwells death," read *dwell* death."—and for "till it operates," read "till it *operate*."



# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

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THE SLEEP WALKER.

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THE SOMNAMBULIST.  
(See Plate.)

THAT somnambulism is the effect of a dream there can be no doubt, but how it differs from ordinary dreams in its volition of the muscles of the body, has yet not been clearly explained. Dr. Hibbert has written upwards of four hundred pages upon the mind under spectral illusion, in which he labours hard to shew the various degrees of difference which exist between the state of sleeping, waking, and of delusion, yet he does not bring us home to any clearly defined principle. He says that idea and sensation in proportion to either is predo-

minance, and to their degree of intensity, produce certain effects; but this is nothing; we want no arguments to prove it. Every one who has dreamed, must know that there are different degrees of intensity or perspicuity in the vision of a dream, from the state of waking down to perfect sleep. The following extract from his work, the *Philosophy of Apparitions*, will explain the principle of this theory.

“ During the transition from watchfulness to perfect sleep, there is an intermediate period of less complete repose, in which the following effects, resulting from a cause of mental excitement, may ensue.

TABULAR VIEW.

Ideas and sensations are excited uniformly.

	Degrees of Vividness and Faintness.	Sleep less complete	1st Stage of Excitement.	2nd Stage of Excitement.	3rd Stage of Excitement.
Muscles obey the will }	7	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	Ideas
	6	. . . .	. . . .	Ideas	Sensations
Consciousness begins. }	5	. . . .	Ideas	Sensations	. . . .
	4	Ideas	Sensations	. . . .	. . . .
Feelings so faint as not to excite consciousness. }	3	Sensations	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .
	2	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .
	1	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .	. . . .

First Stage of Excitement.

“ In the first stage of excitement, ideas attain the fifth and sensations the fourth degree of vividness; in which case there is a consciousness of the former feelings only, and the ordinary state of dreaming is induced.

Second Stage of Excitement.

“ In the second stage, ideas attain the sixth and sensations the fifth degree of vividness. Muscular motions now slightly obey the will, and there is also a consciousness of actual impressions.

Third Stage of Excitement.

In the third stage, ideas are found

at the seventh and sensations at the sixth degree of vividness. This change is characterized by all the phenomena of somnambulism.

“ I know of no other way in which this last stage of excitement can be illustrated, than by shewing that causes of mental excitement when inducing somnambulism, may operate before perfect sleep is induced. Thus, in a case which Mr. Smellie has recorded in his *Philosophy of Natural History*, relative to a somnambulist, it is said, that ‘ his ordinary sleep, which is seldom tranquil, when about to be seized with



a fit of somnambulism is uncommonly disturbed. While in this state, he is affected with involuntary motions; his heart palpitates; his tongue falters; and he alternately rises up and lies down. On one of these occasions the gentlemen remarked, that he soon articulated more distinctly, rose suddenly, and acted agreeably to the motives of the dream which then occupied his imagination."--*New Theory of Sleep.*

In our opinion somnambulism is not depending upon the nature of the dream entirely, but rather on the peculiarity of the person dreaming. It is caused in the same manner as raving or talking in sleep. It cannot be physically accounted for, until we first know how to account physically for sleep itself, which if we could do, would soon point out a way to the causes of dreams and somnambulism. By the way we will here broach an idea upon this point, which at this moment strikes us, and leave it to others to follow up.

It appears not improbable to us, that sleep may be caused by *the relaxation of some small muscular cord or band, which in a state of wakefulness is always contracted, so as perhaps by its pressure upon some part of the brain, to stimulate the senses.* This opinion is strengthened by considering the act of approaching sleep in an erect posture. Do we not observe the person thus going to sleep, first gently close the eyes, then nod. This act of nodding, according to our hypothesis, is occasioned by the *alternate relaxation and contraction of this muscular cord above mentioned.* A minute dissection of the brain, in prosecution of this theory, might be attended with success. Might there not also be an *irregularity* of contraction in this agent, which would produce somnambulism? The cases of sleep-walking upon record, differ so much in degree of action, that we are thereby warranted in the opinion. Many somnambulists do but get out of bed, and either awaken there, or return to bed, still asleep, while some will dress, go out, and perform the ordinary acts of their

business. Of this latter class is the two cases given in our first number, and a case of a boy at Lambeth, who a short time ago went to the stable, while asleep, saddled his master's horse, spoke to and paid the turnpike keeper, and having rode a certain distance, returned and put up the horse.

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 278.)

"THE use of azotic gas, and of the various species of hydrogen gas, produce a diminution of the irritability of the animal fibre to any degree, and hence it becomes useful in a variety of those useful disorders which depend on an increased irritability, such as inflammations, coughs, spasms, &c. In the use of carbonic acid gas we have a powerful antiseptic, and, in certain cases, a solvent of considerable efficacy.

"The use of pure oxygen air is confined to the purpose of exciting the dormant powers of suspended animation, and it is therefore to be administered to children born apparently dead or overlaid; to persons suffocated by drowning, by fumes of charcoal, by foul air, &c. whenever the circumstances of the case may indicate a possibility of recovery.

"Those cases excepted, the respiration of pure or nearly pure oxygen air is almost always attended with unfavourable symptoms, such as a preternatural heat, especially about the region of the lungs; a quickened and feverish pulsation, inflammation, &c. And these symptoms come on after a longer or shorter use of the oxygen air, according to the particular constitution of the experimenter, and the purity of the gas.

"But when the oxygen is diluted with much common air, viz. in the proportion of one to eight, and even as far as one to twenty, it is then a safe and useful remedy, whose principal action consists in giving tone, elasticity, and consistence to the fluid as well as to the solid parts of



the body, and of course it promotes all the natural consequences of those effects, viz. it quickens languid circulation, it strengthens the organs of digestion, promotes secretions, invigorates debilitated habits, and assists nature in throwing off bad humours, and other lurking causes of diseases."

Our author concludes with the following observations:—

"After a careful consideration of the preceding general and comprehensive prospect of the medicinal use and efficacy of the aërial fluids, we may easily regulate the measure of our hopes by the standard of reason and experience. The idea of finding in them a remedy capable of curing consumptions in their various stages must be laid aside, and the hope of healing all sorts of internal ulcers will naturally vanish. A use of reduced atmosphere does undoubtedly diminish the irritability of the fibre, and a diminution of irritability favours the healing of certain ulcers, but by no means of them all; nay, in some cases it will even produce the contrary effect. The use of oxygen air has been found advantageous in many of those disorders that are called nervous, and it has undoubtedly strengthened and invigorated debilitated or emaciated habits; but it would be absurd to expect that it should prove beneficial in all cases of emaciation and debility, since those visible effects are often produced by causes that may be rather fomented than checked by the use of oxygen air."

The only remark I have to add to these judicious observations, now fully established by the repeated trials of others, is, that the confidence placed by certain practitioners in the efficacy of artificial atmospheres seems entirely to be done away.

The vapour of spiritus ætheris sulphurici dropped into warm water, has, in some cases of phthisis pulmonalis, been inhaled with considerable advantage to the patient.

Earth bathing, and stabling with cows, have been recommended by Dr. Beddoes in cases of incipient phthisis. Having had no experience

of these remedies, I must beg leave to pass them over, it being sufficient that I have mentioned them. The former of these, we are given to understand by Van Swieten, in his Commentaries of Boerhaave, is much adopted in Granada, Andalusia, and other parts of Spain, in the cure of phthisis pulmonalis, and was first used in this country by the late well-known empiric Dr. Graham.

One of the latest remedies which has been introduced into practice for the cure of phthisis, is the digitalis purpurea. To speak properly, it is however rather the revival of an old remedy long laid aside than a new one. Concerning the virtues and mode of operation of this medicine, a variety of opinions have been entertained; some attributing to it the power of diminishing secretion, and of exciting the action of the absorbents; and others again looking upon it as only useful from the power it possesses of lessening the action of the heart and arteries. Foxglove has indeed been generally considered as a direct sedative: and by this power, producing a rapid diminution in the frequency of arterial pulsation. A modern writer contends, however, that it is a powerful stimulant; that it increases the strength and frequency of the pulse, and if continued sufficiently long, produces flushed face, headach, hot skin, restlessness, and other symptoms of febrile action. These are effects which indeed we have never before heard attributed to this drug, being diametrically opposite to what they are by all others believed to be.

The chief advocates for foxglove are men of considerable eminence in their profession, and their report is certainly highly in its favour. They seem however to be too confident of having discovered a specific (if I may be allowed the term) for this dreadful disease; and until it is determined that the digitalis alone, and not conjointly with other medicines, has uniformly cured pulmonary consumption, and that it produces effects on the human system different from all others of the same class, we are by no means autho-



ized to consider it in so very favourable a light.

Dr. Beddoes, in his Essay on Consumptions, after having informed us that his own experience has fully verified the observations of the two first gentlemen mentioned in the note below, uses the following forcible words :—

“ I daily see many patients in pulmonary consumption advancing towards recovery with so firm a pace, that I hope consumption will henceforward as regularly be cured by the foxglove, as ague by the Peruvian bark. Could we obtain a single auxiliary for foxglove, such as we have in many instances for the bark, I should expect that not one case in five would terminate as ninety-nine in an hundred have hitherto terminated. But I believe a majority of cases will yield to simple foxglove. It is evident that no new cases need be suffered to advance beyond the first stage, without the application of this medicine, and few into it.”

Dr. Drake speaks of it thus : “ It has for several years been given in pulmonary hæmorrhage with effect, and certainly will continue to be, with the intelligent, whatever may be the result of its trial in phthisis. I am happy however to say, that the success which has hitherto attended the exhibition of the digitalis in phthisis has been very considerable ; several patients, in its confirmed state, have been cured by this remedy ; almost all have been relieved ; life has even been protracted by it ; and when death has taken place, whilst the system was under its influence, it has been free from pain or struggle ; my expectations have been answered, and Dr. Fowler, I understand, from further trials, is fixed in his former favourable opinion.”

(To be Continued.)

## GENERAL RULES FOR DEAFNESS.

FROM whatever cause deafness arises, the following rules should be always

followed, unless indeed it be a radical deafness occasioned by the total destruction of the organs of hearing. This latter case is by no means so frequent as deafness arising from either a thickening of the membranes, or hardened wax, or chronic inflammation, therefore we may say that the annexed rules may be generally followed :—

1st. Have the ears well syringed with warm water and yellow soap—or in other words, soap suds—morning and evening.

2nd. Keep the whole body, particularly the head, from cold.

3d. Always wear firm covering at night on the head and over the ears.

4th. Drop a little of the best sweet oil into the ears once or twice a day.

5th. Keep the bowels from constipation by the following :—

### *Pills for Deafness.*

Of calomel, half a scruple,  
Of antimonial powder, one scruple,  
Of extract of colocynth (compound) a drachm.  
Of oil of cloves, six drops ;

Make into twenty pills, from one to three a dose at night going to bed. A little of the infusion of senna or salts next morning to assist the operation.

All the aurists in the world can recommend little more than the above rules, however they may disguise them ; unless indeed surgical operation be necessary, which is seldom the case. An aurist is a useful member of the profession. We think a man that dedicates his time to the study of the ear, should be of great benefit to society ; but we wish they would deal with their patients more *honestly*.

One opinion from an aurist, if *he be honest*, should suffice, in nine cases out of ten. The reverse is the case ; patients that can pay are kept frequently months under what the aurist calls *the course of cure*, more properly called *the course of paying*. He syringes their ears every time they go to him with a disguised fluid, never superior, if equal, to soap suds ; or he drops a few drops into the ear, and



bows his patient out—for this he gets his guinea *every time*. Some go *daily* to Curtis, when their own servant acting upon an *honest prescription* could do just as well. There are some *strange cases* of Mr. Curtis on our file.

We should properly close our "*rules*," by advising every one who wishes a medical opinion upon deafness, to prefer a scientific surgeon to any "*aurist*" in England.

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### WINTER COUGH.

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NOVEMBER's fogs now pay their unwelcome visits to the asthmatic and phthisical. Coughs now salute our ears at every quarter—upstairs or downstairs, at home or abroad, there is nothing but barking; and at church the parson's "let us pray," now means "*let us cough!*"

We have to remind those of our readers who are thus afflicted to look back to the first and second numbers of the *Medical Adviser*, and carefully attend to the directions there given for common cough and asthma. In addition, however, to that advice we recommend such people to stay at home at night, and of moist or foggy days—to wear cork soles in their shoes, woollen stockings, and a flannel shirt outside the linen. To the plethoric, in either complaints, the loss of a little blood from the arm will be of service.

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### *Bad Consequence attending certain Attitudes of the Body, and some Kinds of Dress.*

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EVERY day's experience informs us how many inconveniences and infirmities we bring on ourselves by affected attitudes, and as often by too little care of the proper attitude of our bodies; when we come to seek for help, we do not only receive no benefit, but often become worse, by reason that the original cause of those complaints is generally overlooked, a depraved attitude of the body.

Mr. Winslow met with a very extraordinary instance of this kind in a

lady, who for many years was both tall and straight; but giving herself up to a sedentary life, and neglecting at the same time to dress herself properly, and sitting sometimes quite bent, either forward or inclined to one side or the other, in a few months after she found very great difficulty to stand upright; after this she sensibly perceived some inequalities in the lower part of the spine, which soon after became in shape like the letter S, by which means she lost near one-fourth of her stature; she remained so crooked that the false ribs reached almost to the ossa ilia; her bowels were necessarily much compressed: her stomach was so affected, that whatever she swallowed seemed to her to fall into two distinct cavities.

Mr. Winslow being called to the assistance of some students, discovered that their complaints proceeded from the unnatural attitude of their bodies, they being obliged to write on their knees in the public colleges; this forced attitude, by compressing their bowels, was the real cause of all their ailments, which being entirely overlooked by other physicians, what they ordered for them could never have the desired effect; but upon recommending to discontinue this forced attitude, some recovered without any other help, and others by taking those things that before were observed to have no effect.

He often observed other students sorely afflicted with head-aches, sore eyes and throats, which would not give way to either bleeding, or the best adapted medicines; but finding upon enquiry that those students had acquired a habit of laying low, with their heads beyond the pillow, by recommending to change this depraved manner of laying, they soon got rid of their complaints.

The same evils often proceed from too tight neck and wrist-bands, cravats, &c. which are very often the cause of headaches, sore-throats, sore-eyes, giddiness, vertigos, bleedings of the nose, &c. which by overlooking the original cause, eluded the force of all the medicines employed; but Mr. Winslow by only recommending to slacken those over-tight neck-bands, cravats, relieved some in an instant, by the



blood's circulating freely after in both the jugulars.

M. Cruger, Surgeon-general of Denmark and Norway, hearing Mr. Winslow repeat those observations in one of his anatomical lectures, as a confirmation of it, told him that a captain in the Danish service used to make all his men tie their stocks and garters very tight, by which means their faces looked ruddy and full, and the calfs of their legs both full and plump; Cruger further observed that in some time after, all those men became highly scorbutic, and that many of them died in spite of all the means used for their relief, all owing to the tight ligatures, which gradually disposed all the juices of the body to putrefy.\*

M. Winslow thinks that the calves and lambs brought to market with their four feet closely tied together, might, by the stagnation of their blood from those tight ligatures, become less wholesome food than the flesh of others that were not brought to market without such ligatures.

The women's high heels, formerly so much in fashion, have also their inconvenience; for when the heel is so high, the fore-part of the foot is more bent than it should be; the consequence is that the posterior muscles that extend the foot are preternaturally shortened, while those that bend the foot are kept in a forced extended state; all such find great difficulty in going down any steep place; they also find difficulty to walk for any time on an even flat ground; being obliged to keep their knees more or less bent to prevent their hitting their heels against the ground; whereas such as wear low-heels are not subject to the like inconveniences, as we visibly see in all running-foot-men, chair-men, labouring-men, &c.; those forced extensions of some muscles and unnatural contractions of others, must sooner or later expose the blood-vessels and nerves of those parts to several ailments, which by overlooking the original cause, will be attributed to some other, and what means are employed to remove them, if they do not injure,

at least they become useless and of no effect.

#### OF THE SKIN.

THE skin is a kind of very thick membrane, which covers all the parts of the body. Its thickness however varies, being greater in the head and back, than in the face, &c. It is not of a texture equally compact, for it is more lax in the hairy part of the head than in the back, where it is more compact.

The moderns have discovered, that the skin is principally composed of four parts.

The first or innermost is properly called the skin. It is composed of a surprising texture of tendinous and nervous fibres, interspersed with a great number of vessels, most of which are lymphatic. This texture yields in all directions, as is observable in fulness, &c. and again recovers its primitive state.

The second part of the skin is called the papillary substance, and is composed of several eminences of different figures, principally formed by the extremities of the nerves distributed to the skin. These eminences are commonly called the papillæ of the skin, and are easily discovered about the fingers, the palms of the hands, and the soles of the feet, after the epidermis or outer skin is removed.

The third part of the skin is by Malpighi called the mucous or reticular substance; it is so closely adherent to the epidermis, that these two parts may be looked upon as one, the mucous substance seeming to be but the interior part of the epidermis, which may be called the surface of that substance indurated, and as it were become callous.

The fourth, or outermost part of the skin, which on account of its situation is called epidermis, is a transparent membrane, and more or less slender, there being some parts where it is pretty thick, as in the palms of the hands and soles of the feet, especially in those who go bare-foot, or work at hard employments. No fibre seems to enter the composition of the epidermis, and the finest injections have not hitherto discovered any vessels in it. The

\* See our remarks on Cravats, No. 1. MED. ADVISER.



different impressions made on this membrane excite no sensation.

The whole skin is perforated with a surprising number of small pores. It has also apertures known to every body, I mean those of the eyes, the mouth, the nose, the anus, &c.

In these large apertures of the skin we observe, that it does not terminate at the edge or circumference of most of these openings. The skin is reflected to the inside of the cavities, whose entrance it has formed, and unites with the membrane which lines them, as is observable in the nostrils and external duct of the ear, where the skin runs to line the sides of that duct as far as the tympanum, and the epidermis in this part advances over this membrane to cover it, so that it there forms a kind of an end of a bag, and the skin only forms a kind of duct perforated in its extremity, as I shall afterwards shew.

In the surface of the skin we observe a great number of lines, more or less deep, according to the parts where they are. These are especially observable in the palm of the hand, where they are considerable; but a greater number of them is observable in all the extent of the hand, and it is principally of these that I intend to speak.

The lines observable at the internal and inferior part of each finger are often turned into spirals, and the use of all these furrows is to cover the pores which are found in them.

Besides these we observe certain foldings, which are formed by the whole skin, and we distinguish these into two sorts.

The first are those formed by the adhesion of the fleshy and tendinous fibres of certain muscles to the texture of the skin itself; such are the wrinkles of the forehead and eyelids, &c.

The second are those formed by some ligamentary or tendinous fibres, which fix the skin to the adjacent parts; such are the foldings observable at the different joinings of the fingers, &c.

In the internal surface of the

skin, and principally of that which covers the face and armpits, we observe several small granulations, commonly called cutaneous glands, and whose exterior ducts pierce the skin at the sides of the papillæ, or in the papillæ themselves, according to the observations of Mr. Winslow. These glands are distinguished into two classes. Steno and Malpighi have called some of them miliary, and looked upon them as the sources of the sweat. Mr. Valsalvi and Mr. Morgagni have called the others sebaceous, because they separate an unctuous matter, more or less thick. These are principally discovered in the skin which covers the cranium, behind the ears, in the eyelids, the point of the nose, &c. whence in some people we easily express this matter in the form of small worms. This in general is called the filth of the skin.

As for the pores of the skin, there are two sorts of them; some are more or less perceptible, such as the orifices of the cutaneous glands, and principally those of the sebaceous kind, and those which afford a passage for the hair; the others are imperceptible by the naked eye, and can only be discovered by a microscope. These last afford a passage for the matter of insensible transpiration, that is, to a fine exhalation, or a kind of very subtile smoke, which generally escapes very imperceptibly through the small pores of the skin. This is called cutaneous transpiration, to distinguish it from that called pulmonary, or from the lungs, which I shall afterwards consider.

This insensible evacuation is made simply and without any artifice through the skin, almost in the same manner as we see the smoke rising from the entrails of a new killed animal. It is a particular and continual discharge of the serosity of the blood, through the capillary vessels of the skin.

This cutaneous exhalation is rendered sufficiently sensible, when we apply the ends of the fingers or the palm of the hand to a looking glass, or any other well polished body, which are by this means forthwith



tarnished, and as it were covered with a condensed vapour.

The evacuation made through the small pores of the skin, and that which continually escapes from the lungs, however insensible they may appear, are yet so considerable that they greatly surpass those made by other outlets, according to the observations of Sanctorius, a celebrated Italian physician; he affirms, that having weighed himself with all the circumstances which could make the evacuation vary, he found that more is dissipated in twenty-four hours by insensible transpiration, than the quantity of gross excrements discharged in fifteen days. This, however, ought not to be understood in so general a manner but that there are exceptions to it, for transpiration is different according to the age and sex of people, the heat or coldness of the air, and it is much more copious in hot than in cold climates, and in young persons than in those advanced in years.

It is sufficiently obvious, that health is never more perfect than when transpiration is freely carried on, and that this evacuation can neither be suppressed nor considerably diminished without producing a proportionable alteration in health, for the parts which ought to escape by transpiration remaining in the blood, must necessarily change its laudable disposition.

The different effects of mercurial frictions, and the application of medicines to the skin, have laid a foundation for believing that besides these different pores, there are also others which afford an entrance to the particles separated from these medicines; and it is at present believed, that these last apertures correspond to as many capillary veins.

Various uses are assigned to the skin.

1st. When considered as a membrane, it serves as a covering to all the parts of the body.

2d. It is looked upon as the particular organ of touch, on account of the different nervous papillæ which enter its composition. It is

by their means we distinguish the different tactile qualities of bodies, namely, their hardness, softness, smoothness, or roughness.

As for the epidermis, it is to be looked upon as very necessary to regulate the impressions which the papillæ receive from tactile bodies, and which without its assistance would prove painful.

The membrane is also thought proper to regulate the evacuations made through the pores of the skin.

The colour of the skin is not the same in the natives of different countries; it is white in England, France, &c. tawny in Spain, olive coloured in Egypt, and black among the Moors, &c. Several anatomists have thought that the colour of the skin depended on that of the epidermis, but exact scrutineers evince that the epidermis varies but little in these different nations, retaining almost in all of them its whitish colour; I say, almost in all of them; for we observe that in the Moors this membrane is not so white as that of the Europeans, but of a tawny colour, resembling that of burnt horn. It is not the colour of the epidermis which absolutely determines that of the skin, but rather that of the corpus mucosum situated below it, as the most exact observations evince; and if it is true, that the colour of the skin depends principally on that of the reticular body, it must be also granted that the epidermis which covers it immediately, renders the colour more or less delicate according as it is thicker or thinner.

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## OF THE HAIR.

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THERE are hairs on all parts of the skin, except the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet. Those which in man cover the chin, and in both sexes the armpits and the external parts of generation, only appear about the age of puberty, that is to say, about fourteen years of age. All the rest of the hairs accompany birth, and have different names, according to the parts



where they are, as those of the head, eyebrows, &c.

When that part of the hair which is without the skin is examined with a microscope, it is found transparent, and diversified with small nodes. Bidloo, professor of anatomy at Leyden, says, that branches or ramifications are generally observed in it. As for the root of the hair, or that part which is within the skin, some think that it is hollow or vascular, almost like the roots of quills. The deceased M. Chirac, first physician to the king of France, who narrowly considered this subject, and even wrote a treatise on it, says, he observed that the body of a hair of the head is only composed of an assemblage of filaments, which have their roots implanted in a common capsula, which is common to all these filaments, and at the same time particular to each hair. In man this capsula is included partly in the substance of the fat, and partly in the thickness of the skin, and it appears to be composed of two membranes, the external of which is as it were tendinous, and the internal glandular. In this are included the roots of the air, which are continually moistened with a liquor filtrated into the capsula itself, and this liquor is probably the matter employed for the nutrition and growth of the hair.

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### EFFECTS OF MELANCHOLY.

MONS. PINET, relates a story of a young gentleman endowed with a most vivid imagination, who came to Paris to study the law: His application was said to have been laborious and painful in the extreme, the consequence of which was, that along with frequent bleeding at the nose, spasmodic oppressions of the chest, wandering pains of the bowels, and a troublesome flatulence, he was seized with great depression of spirits, and a morbidly enervated sensibility. These symptoms daily increased, to an extreme degree. One night he bethought himself that

he would go to the play, to seek relief from his own unhappy meditations. The piece which was presented was "*The Philosopher without knowing it.*" He was instantly seized with the most gloomy suspicions, and especially with a conviction that the comedy was written on purpose, and represented to ridicule himself. He accused his friend with having furnished materials for the writer of it, and bitterly reproached him for having betrayed the rights of friendship, and exposed him to public derision. His delirium observed no bounds. Every priest and monk he met in the public walks, he took for comedians in disguise, dispatched there for the purpose of studying his gestures, and of discovering the secret operations of his mind. In the dead of the night he gave way to the most terrific apprehensions; believed himself to be attacked sometimes by spies, and at other times by robbers and assassins. He once opened his window with great violence, and cried out help and murder with all his might.

The young man was then sent under the protection of a proper person, to an asylum belonging to a little village in the Pyrenees. It was however soon after agreed upon that he should return to his family residence, where on account of his paroxysms of delirious extravagance succeeded by fits of profound melancholy, he was insulated from society. Ennui and insurmountable disgust for life, absolute refusal of food, and dissatisfaction with every thing, and every body that came near him, were among the last ingredients of his bitter cup. To conclude, he one day eluded the vigilance of his keeper, and with no other garment on than his shirt, fled to a neighbouring wood, where he lost himself, and where from weakness and inanition he ended his miseries. Two days afterwards he was found a corpse. In his hand was the celebrated work of Plato, on the immortality of the soul.

In the hospital for lunatics, founded by Dean Swift, a man was placed by his friends in the year 1802. To



converse with him, would give the impression that he was perfectly sane, nay his arguments and his eloquence were admirable. The fact is, that he was sane in every particular except one, and that was upon religion; this topic first excited enthusiasm, and then incoherence; he would throw himself down and weep "for his sins." Often has he translated Latin and Greek lessons for a friend and fellow pupil of ours with an elegance that delighted. This unhappy young man was, by the Physicians, permitted to walk about in the company of an old man his keeper. In one of these excursions he went to see the salt-works at a village near Dublin, called Rings End, and stood a few moments gazing on a salt pan filled with boiling fluid. Presently he clasped his hands, and cried out, "O God I cannot do enough to expiate my sins," and plunged into the pan, where he was instantly destroyed.

The effects of melancholy are truly deplorable. When the mind first becomes tinged with this dreadful malady, is the time to make strong exertions against it. Pleasant society, nay indulgence in moderate drinking should be adopted, with frequent drastic purgatives. All *causes* should be combated. Pleasure and change of scene are the best antidotes.

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### OF THE NAILS.

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EVERY one knows that the nails are those bodies, generally transparent, of a pretty firm consistence, and of an oval figure, found at the extremities of the fingers and toes. In them we distinguish two parts, which are called the root and the extremity. Their substance resembles that of horn, being like it formed of several laminæ applied over each other, and closely united; these laminæ are not equally long, and are so arranged that the external are the longest, and the internal the shortest.

Some authors think that the laminæ which compose the nails are

composed of the nervous papillæ of the skin, which are lengthened and indurated in proportion as they approach the extremity of the nail.

The principal uses of the nails are, 1st. to guard the extremities of the fingers against the impressions of hard bodies; and 2ndly. to lay hold of and secure such bodies as would otherwise escape them, on account of their smallness.

The nails of the toes have this in common with those of the fingers, that they guard them against the impressions of hard bodies; and according to some, their use is also to strengthen and secure the feet in walking.

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### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

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#### *A Caul to save from Drowning.*

OF all the absurdities that remain from our early ages, this is the most flagrant. What an ass a man must be to rely upon such superstition, and what a ninny to give *pounds* for it! There are many swindlers make a good living by *making* cauls out of the entrails of sheep.

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#### *Gin and Pepper for Warm Beer.*

This is a good practice. It tends to remove the flatulency which *too much* beer occasions.

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### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

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#### *For Chapped Hands.*

Take of common white ointment or lard, an ounce,  
Of diluted citron ointment, a quarter of an ounce.

Melt them together. This should be rubbed slightly to the hands after they have been washed in warm water, and then a pair of soft leather gloves put on and constantly kept on until the next application of the ointment, which should be the next day.

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#### *To make Adhesive Plaster.*

Melt a little diachylon, in a ladle, fasten a strip of linen with a fork to the table, pour out the melted matter on the near end of the linen, and with a knife at *one swift stroke* spread it upwards.





### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

#### *Report of the Dinner of the New College of Physicians.*

THE members of the New College of Physicians having adjourned from the White Hart, Bishopsgate-street, as stated in our report of their meeting, they all arrived at Duke-street, Aldgate, about a quarter past two, when dinner was instantly served up by Mr. Abrahams, the proprietor of the public house at which they dined.

Dr. Courtenay took the chair, and was faced by Dr. Broghum, Knight Grand Cross of the Russian Empire. In addition to the members—Dr. Eady, Dr. McDonald, Dr. Cameron, Dr. Jordan, and Dr. Gardiner attended by special invitation—Dr. Lynch, Dr. Samuels, Dr. James, Dr. Lamert of Bristol, Dr. Van Butchel, Dr. Peed, Dr. Sir Charles Aldis, Dr. Price, the apothecary of Cannon-street; Dr. Taylor, dealer in Leake's Pills; Dr. Laing, Mrs. Johnson, and the two newly admitted licentiates, Dr. Sykes and Dr. Lynch, jun. Dr. Friedberg was invited, but declined attending, having lately\* separated himself from the fraternity. The company amounted to twenty and a more learned body never sat down to dinner at the King's Head, Duke-street, Aldgate, in the adamantine memory of Mr. Abrahams, the admiring landlord.

The dinner consisted of four legs of mutton, two buttocks of beef, three hams, and two large dishes of flounders fried in oil,—a sucking pig, specially ordered for Mrs. Johnson. Vegetables in abundance, amongst which was remarked a large dish of sour crout before the German Vice President, who did not spare it. This course was removed for beef-

steak pies, lobscouce, apple dumplings, and dough boys; and the dessert which was specially ordered by Dr. Jordan from his friend Moses Aaron, was as profuse as it was select and elegant. Codlings and cocoa nuts rolled rapidly round the table, and chestnuts, white and hard, encountered many a tooth. The wine was of the best quality that Mr. Abrahams could procure, and the brandy, rum, gin, and cordials of exquisite flavour.

The cloth being removed, the President, Dr. Courtenay, proposed the health of the members of the New College. Dr. Sir Charles Aldis and Dr. Broghum both arose, and declared that the King's health should first be drank, which was instantly assented to. Mrs. Johnson then rose and said, it was only fair that after the King should come the Queen; she therefore would give the memory of the late Queen Caroline. This created some noise, for Sir C. Aldis and Dr. B. swore by G—they would not drink it, while Dr. Jordan insisted upon it being drank; however, the affair was compromised by a proposal from the chair, that those who wished might drink the toast, and those that did not like it should be at liberty to do as they pleased.

Silence being now restored, the President gave success to the New College, and confusion to all regular practitioners. (*This was drank with acclamation.*)

The Vice President then gave the health of Dr. Courtenay, the enlightened president of the New College. (*Three times three.*)

Dr. Courtenay then spoke as follows:—"Gentlemen and Madam, (*to Mrs. Johnson,*) I rise to address you upon the happiest occasion in my life, upon the first amalgamation, I may say, of all the powerful medical talent of this rich and great metropolis—talent that has not grown in the rank hot beds of regular universities, nurtured and watched by the eye and hand of art, but, gentlemen and madam, talent which like the oak of the wilderness, rises unaided till it spreads its sheltering branches over the simple

\* We are happy to learn that Mr. Friedberg is applying himself most indefatigably to the study of surgery.



roots that lie beneath it. (*Hear, hear.*) Happy am I, gentlemen and madam, that I am placed beneath the weighty honour of presiding over this talent; and unworthy as I am of such distinction, I will do my best to bear it. It is true that I am not without some little claims to professional confidence, and I trust it will not be out of place here to mention them. You all know that I have not received a regular medical education, and started into the world of practice, but as all of you around me have, on my own natural abilities. (*Hear, hear.*) My name was Aaron, which not being a good one to practice with, I changed to Barron; this speculation succeeded, patients flowed upon me; but certain private occurrences having been somewhat contrary, I was obliged to drop that name, and set up under the appellation of Currie and Co. in Hatton Garden. There, gentlemen and madam, I believe I did as much as any of you in the *private line*, as my advertisements demonstrated. I was, however, necessitated to give up this establishment—which I do not at all regret—for now, gentlemen and madam, I have completely established myself as a Stricture Doctor in the Adelphi, and my book is my shop. In this short outline, I trust, will be seen that I have ever supported the true principles of the profession, and I trust I shall ever do so. (*This speech was enthusiastically cheered.*)

The vice-president's health was then drank: he rose and spoke the following:—"Mynheer, Mr. President, and my lady, I speak not good English; but I say I come to dis country mid three shillin and sixpence in my pocket. I land at Portsmouth; I wear black coat and a hole under de arm: I stick my black stocking under de hole, and I hold down my arm. I walk up to London; I make a fortune of my nervous balsam. I know de king and de Emperor of Russia, and all de oder kings in de world. I write a book, and I print my picture, and I now laugh in my sleeve at de Engalish people—ha! ha! ha! ha! (*Bravo! and a general laugh.*)

Dr. B. then proposed the health of

Dr. Sir Chas. Aldis. Sir Charles rose. "Gentlemen and Mrs. Johnson," said the worthy knight, "I am proud of the honour you have done me. I am not a member of your college, but intend to present myself for that honour as soon as I have got a glandered horse out of my hands, which I am now curing for the Earl of Fife. I am in the habits of seeing a great many big wigs, and I'll mention your college to 'em. I'm a barbarous bad judge of colleges; but I likes the thing, and that you know is enough. You are all right, and I mean to do all I can for you. I'll learn you the way that I cure cancers, which is just the same as glanders: I'll shew you sommot o' my tricks that will surprise you. Some on 'em may die by course; but not so many as does with Whitlow. Cancer is the way to humbug—that's better than all your plans. Why you may persuade an ould woman that she has a cancer on her nose, if it's only a cold day, and a little blue—so frighten her out of fifty pounds. La' bless you, I've done wonders with my broad-brimmed hat and a stare or two at a red nose. I fear I have detained the company with my speech too long; but I hope you will excuse my intemperance, and in thanking you all round, I beg to propose the health of Mrs. Johnson.

On Mrs. Johnson's health being drank, she arose to return thanks as follows:—"I rise, Gentlemen, to drink healths a-piece to you all, for your polite attention. It cannot be wondered at that I am embarrassed, being the only female doctor amongst such an enlightened assembly, yet I am sure your kindness will make allowances. O! it is truly *soothing* to look round and behold such luminaries—and all liberal men, each sticking to his own peculiar line of business, and leaving the children all to me. Yes, Gentlemen, I am proud to sit amongst you, and to enrol my name and that of my Soothing Syrup in the Records of your College. This syrup, Gentlemen, will enrich your annals; it is not like the *anodyne necklace*, which is no more than so many bird's eggs strung round the infant's neck; no, the *soothing syrup* sets them a kicking, Gentlemen, and screaming, and



a starting, and then, if they recover, the mother says, "what a wonderful cure!" and if they die—*why they were too far gone before they took the syrup.* Is it not a *real* blessing to mothers, Gentlemen, and a real blessing to *me* too, who am the *mother* of the syrup, for it has put me into a fine house in the City-road, where I shall be glad to see you all one of those days."

(*Dr. Jordan here asked her to name the day, but Mrs. J. told him she would send him notice.*)

"One word more, Gentlemen: it may be and often is said, that women are weak and unfit for the learned profession; but this opinion I trust every enlightened member of the new College will not subscribe to. Our sex gentlemen can boast of a De Staël, a Genlis, a Morgan, a Lamb, a Godwin, who asserts the rights of woman, and a Carlisle who stands up for the rights of man. O! Gentlemen, a petticoat can practice in our art as well as a breeches, and I trust when I present myself for my diploma, at your College, you will not refuse me that honour."—(*Hear, hear, hear.*) Mrs.

Dr. Jordan feeling elated at the applause he received, and glowing with the effects of self-approbation, and a plentiful administration of good liquor, proposed a volunteer song, which proposal was received with general approbation. The learned doctor, therefore, after a few prefatory, or rather symphonic coughs, proceeded to flourish in the following verses.

I vonce vas but a pedlar, and my shop vas in my box,  
 As sure as I'm a smouch and my name is Mordicai;  
 I've cheated all de vorld in spite of whipping posts or stocks,  
 For I never sticks at troifles when dere's monish in de vay.  
 I've fine gold rings of copper gilt; and so I gets my bread,  
 Vid my sealing vax of brick dust, and my pencils vidout lead,  
 Vid my pick-pack, nick-nack, tick-tack, gim-crack,  
 Twing, twong, tinglam dee,  
 And my tink, tank, tink, the chink to clink,  
 Is the music for me.

In search of goods de cheaper some people steal de stuff,  
 In by selling of great bargains dey never vont for trade;  
 But I alvays find de vay to sell 'em cheap enough,  
 For you know 'tis quite as easy to steal 'em ready made.  
 And do I am no Christian, yet I tink very great sin,  
 If a stranger comes across me dat I would not take him in.  
 Vid my pick-pack, nick-nack, &c.

Johnson then sat down, and took a glass of neat brandy to sooth her spirits.

Dr. Jordan's health being drank, that gentleman rose to return thanks. "I am," said he, "sa velp me Cot, right glad to see you all here at Mr. Abrahams', my cousin, and I hope and trust there is not one on you that is not the same way o' thinking. I'll just say a few words to you Gentlemen, to shew whether I have *not done the trick.* You all know that I begun with selling old clothes, which my father follows to this day, and also that I was a hawker of pencils. Velp you know no man ever started so quick as myself, not even my learned friend Dr. Eady. I stuck up all about Whitechapel, that I had a golden dream, and I touched the blunt in fine style. Then I got Oliver—Cod rest his soul—to make me up some stuff, and we christened it Rakasiri. Now my lads I drive my curricule over the flats. (*Bravo! hear! hear!*) So a toast—"Here's to hell with all the regular doctors." (*Roars of applause.*)

The toast was then drank *four times four.*



And when I do de business of a doctor or a priest,  
 And in vant of my assistance a poor man sends for me ;  
 In doing of my duty I will sarve myself at least,  
 If I spy a good fat piece of pork,\* and he can give no fee,  
 Does he tink dat I'll refuse it—bless my soul he is mistaken,  
 I could sell it if not eat it, and dat would not save his bacon.  
 Vid my pick-pack, nick-nack, &c.

Loud and reiterated exclamations followed this song—and Dr. Eady nearly broke a blood vessel with laughing.

(The conclusion of this report in our next.)



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*An Idiot's Brain.*—The “Medical Repository” reports that an idiot’s brain was last August presented to the Academy, and that it possessed *no marks of convolutions* on its surface. This, if authentic, and well managed by the Phrenologists, will assist them much in the prosecution of their favourite science.

*Mr. Fauntleroy.*—This unhappy man was very properly accommodated on his trial with a chair. We are glad to find such a measure, and think that the hint we threw out upon the last case of forgery which was tried at the Old Bailey (the Purser) has done some good. Every prisoner that appears debilitated, or that remains after three hours upon his trial, should be allowed a seat. The fatigue caused by standing combined with an agitated mind, must tend to *stupify*; this is an obvious reason for allowing them a seat.

*New Light.*—We understand that a work is in the press under the imposing title of “*New Thoughts in Physic and Surgery.*” We hope the “new thoughts” will be *worth* having—we have enough of *old ones.*

*Hip Joint Operation.*—A medical gentleman just arrived from Rome informs us that the hip joint operation has been performed in that city last June, on *both* the thighs! but unsuccessfully.

*Misfortune Extraordinary.*—In the small town of Dumfries there are no less than *fifteen doctors!*—O patience!—“*Patintia per forza!*” as the Portuguese say.

*Hydrophobia.*  
 THE subtilty of the virus of a mad dog is very surprising; Cæsar Aurelianus assures us, his very breath is sufficient to communicate the infection. Jo. Pierus says, that a surgeon upon dissecting a mad-dog, was infected by the very vapor that exhaled from his body; and Palmarius assures us, that the very breath, or kissing a person that was mad, would communicate the infection. He related the history of a peasant that was mad, who, when he was dying, he earnestly requested he might be permitted to take leave of his children; he no sooner had kissed them than he died quite suffocated: these were instantly infected, and died seven days after, mad like their father.

Mathiolus says, he knew two persons who were infected by the saliva of a mad-dog, though they were no way wounded or bit by him; and Mattheus de Gradib, knew a man that became mad, by putting his hand into a mad dog’s mouth, though the dog neither bit or hurt him.

\* Not a word about the pig in a former number.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. PUTRIE, DOVER. The lotion prescribed by the surgeon is good. You must attend to your general health, and wear a suspensory bandage. Keep your digestion in due order.

J. R. She must rest, and use a wash of sulphate of zinc and water, a drachm to a quart.—No intercourse,—write in a month.

*An Enemy to Quackery, &c., Manchester*, will oblige the public at large, by giving the history of some of the horde of quacks that infest Manchester.

We are glad to hear that J. G\*\*\* *Temple Bar*, is better, let him continue the plan. The "separate publication" he alludes to, will be ready about Christmas.

J. H. L.'s inclosure about MEE is received.

H. ANSON. Take porter, but let it be unadulterated, and take it moderately.

IN MISS A.'s case described by her medical attendant, we think that repeated aloetic and mercurial purgatives, are her only hope. A grain of digitalis with a grain of calomel every night or two, would be advisable, but above all keep up the alvine discharge. We wish much to hear the result in a fortnight; if the swelling begin to recede, she will recover.

R. S. You have only to take a table spoonful of the acidulated decoction of bark every morning, and keep the bowels regular by daily doses of rhubarb.

J. S., BILSTON. Attend to the rules in this number for deafness. Have you tried electricity at night since? but there is little hope.

A. Z. is most likely in the way she suspects. Has she taken calcined magnesia? Take a dose of it every second day for a week, and then write.

D\*\*\*. Take the acidulated decoction of bark, a table spoonful every morning, and take five grains of blue pill, twice a week at night, with a cup of senna tea next morning.—Write again. An occasional dose of magnesia will serve.

ALFRED M. If the symptoms be less violent, which by this time ought to be the case, an injection of sulphate of zinc and water, three grains to an ounce, twice or thrice a day will serve him.

J. K. L., LEEDS, take a scruple of cream of tartar and a scruple of gum arabic every day, for a fortnight, in a large glass of warm water with sugar. The blister has had a good effect.

*An old Subscriber*. SHARPE and his eye-drops are trash. Attend to your digestion.

J. B ——— G., BIRMINGHAM, will find our opinion directed to him at the post office.

An unlucky accident has occasioned the loss of several of our correspondents' letters, which we intended to answer. Those therefore who have not received our reply, are requested to write again. Thomas Powel's letter was amongst them.

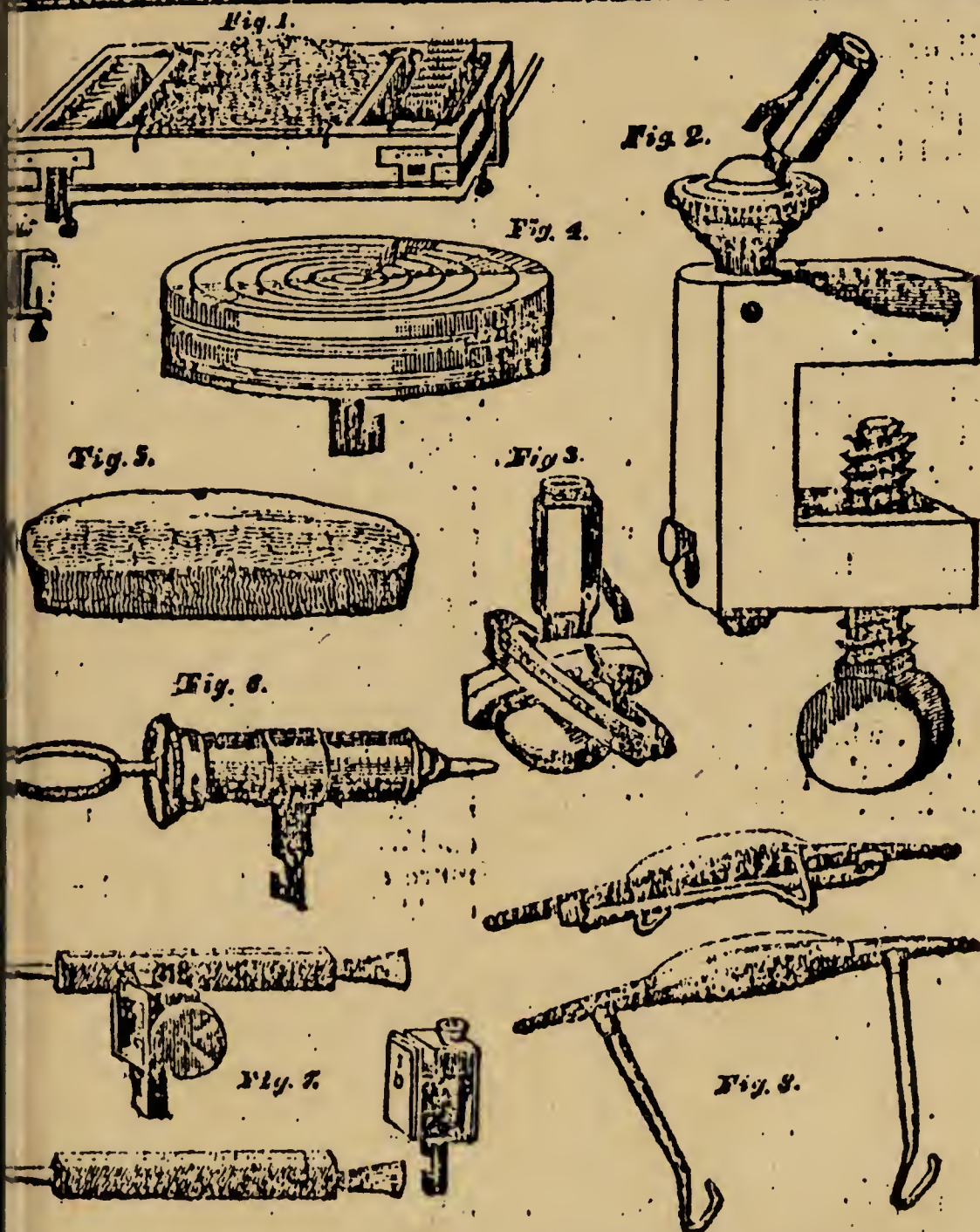
VERITAS next week.



# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND  
GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.  
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ENCHIRIDION; OR, A HAND FOR THE ONE-HANDED.

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## ENCHIRIDION;

*Or, a Hand for the One-Handed.*

**Fig. 1. The Wash-Hand Tray complete.**—This is the largest article belonging to the One-Handed Apparatus; it is made of mahogany, bound with brass; and is lined with tin-foil, or lead paper. It is attached to the dressing-table by a pair of small plated clamps, which are represented in the Engraving, and are too simple to require any further explanation. By means of a tray thus fitted up, it will be evident that a person who has either lost one hand entirely, or the use of it for a time, will be able to wash with that which remains, far better than any other person could do it for him.

**Fig. 2.** The second article is an *Ivory Vice* of the common kind, only somewhat more than usually substantial. It will be found extremely useful, on account of the number of purposes to which it may be applied; such, for instance, as holding a razor-strop steady; or a letter firm, when it is to be sealed; or paper for the purpose of writing or drawing upon; as in all these respects it answers the purpose of a lead, or marble slab; but it becomes of far more important use when the *Universal Joint, or Ball and Socket* (Fig. 3.) is attached to it; there is then scarcely any part of the day in which its utility is not called into action in some way or other.

**Fig. 4. A Lather-Box.** It must have a joint fixed in the bottom of it, as is represented in the Engraving, and that joint should be made to fit the stem of the ball and socket belonging to the ivory vice, by means of which it may be attached to the dressing-table, and removed at pleasure.

**Fig. 5. The Lead Cushion,** represented above, will be found, simple as it may appear, useful in many instances to a one-handed person; such as in confining papers or letters, in the same manner as the vice, when a gentleman wishes to write or draw.

**Fig. 6. A Syringe.**—This, which is represented in the Engraving, is

the same as those in general use, excepting that it is somewhat shorter, in order that the water may be drawn up, and returned by it, more easily with one hand; it has also a joint on the outside, in the middle of it, by which it may be applied to the stem of the ball and socket.

**Fig. 7. This Nail File** will be found particularly useful; as the ease with which it can be applied in an instant, by means of the small brass vice that accompanies it, represented in the Engraving, to the edge of the wash-hand tray, or to the table, will always enable a gentleman to shape his nails, and keep them clean; should any accident or circumstance oblige him to have recourse to it in the middle of the day, it will be found to take up very little room in the waistcoat pocket; it should be put into a case to guard against the possibility of injury. The brass vice is made to fit into the stem of the universal joint, before described; by which means the file can be turned in any direction which may be deemed most convenient.

**Fig. 8.** By means of the *Boots Hooks* represented in this Engraving, a one-handed person will be enabled to draw on his boots with more expedition than any attendant could do it for him.

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 325.)

Dr. Mossman says, "I have prescribed the digitalis very extensively for upwards of twelve months, and during the last six of that period I have had very ample experience of its powers. I am now fully persuaded, that by a judicious management of the plant, variously combined, I can obviate pneumonic inflammation, with as much certainty as I can arrest the progress of an intermittent fever by means of the bark of cinchona. Again, I am persuaded, that, if pulmonary consumption be divided into four stages, the digitalis will very certainly cure the first three, and as certainly alleviate the distressing symptoms of the last."



In the primary stages of the complaint, Dr. Mossman is of opinion, that this remedy approximates to a specific. He thinks that it possesses itself a power directly sedative, and that the application of this power, by lessening the irritability of the muscular fibre, will explain its salutary operation in the cure of pulmonary consumption.

From the observations of all these gentlemen, as well as from those of other physicians, the digitalis must certainly be admitted to be a very powerful remedy in phthisis; and although it is by no means to be regarded as a specific, still it must be allowed to have, in many instances, procured the most beneficial effects. In its early stage, when the powers of the system are not broken down, it promises to be productive of very essential service, by moderating the pulse, and by diminishing the hectic fever, the most distressing of the symptoms, and that which seems to hurry on the patient to a fatal termination. After the purulent stage is completely formed, it has appeared to me, however, not to produce any considerable or permanent good effects; but even in this stage of phthisis it has been thought by some physicians to alleviate the sufferings of the patient.

It does not seem that any evil of magnitude can arise from its use in pulmonary consumption, if properly exhibited; that is to say, if given in moderate doses about thrice a-day, and increased in a gradual manner until it produces a sensible effect on the system.

The most unpleasant symptoms consequent on a liberal and long-continued use of this medicine, are vertigo, nausea, and sickness. In the case where the stomach and head are soon disordered by even a small dose, we are informed by Dr. Drake, that a little lemon-juice produced an immediate good effect, relieving both the sickness and vertigo, and enabling him to throw in a larger quantity of the tincture with ease and safety. A few drops of rect. opii with each dose of the tincture of digitalis, he mentions,

will sometimes prevent the rejection of the latter from the stomach; but he has not found it very effectual in removing the sensation of languor, or the affection of the head.

The preparation of the digitalis used by the late Dr. Fowler of Stafford, is a decoction, of which he directed his patients to take half an ounce, twice, thrice, and, in a few instances, four times in twenty-four hours. That used by Dr. Drake, was the saturated tincture, in the proportion of five ounces of proof spirit to one ounce of the leaves coarsely powdered, without any dilution of the colour or diminution of strength or taste. Of this saturated tincture he at first gave his patients from fifteen to twenty drops twice a-day, which in some cases he gradually increased to ninety or an hundred drops with safety, even in patients greatly debilitated, before either sickness or irregularity of the circulation took place.

Dr. McLean, of Sudbury, in Suffolk, is another gentleman who has favoured us with his sentiments on the foxglove; and although he does not speak of it in such high terms as those of whom I have made mention in the preceding pages, and allows its powers to be limited even in the very early stages, still he is ready to acknowledge that he found it a valuable remedy in consumption. He says, "it will sometimes cure when the most approved remedies fail. When of itself it is insufficient to subdue the disease, it will prove a valuable auxiliary to other means. It has always with me quieted and soothed the sufferings of the patient more or less; and where it ultimately failed, it lengthened the duration of life, and smoothed the avenues to death." He goes on with observing, "this is all, I apprehend, it will be found capable of performing; but this is doing a great deal. Those who expect wonders from it, or that it will in general cure consumption, will be disappointed."

The preparation of the digitalis recommended and used by Dr. McLean, is that of the tincture made



according to the formula\* here advised; but he gives the preference to the last, as having the plant in its perfect state. He begins with from ten to fifteen drops three times a-day, increasing two drops every second day, until the habit feels its influence. He then desists, and afterwards diminishes in the same gradual manner, or augments the dose according to the effect. By these means, he observes, the body may, with the greatest safety, be kept under its influence for weeks, and even months. From Dr. M'Lean's report, it appears, however, that he never was able to exceed a greater dose than thirty drops, repeated three times a day.

With respect to the supposed mode of action of the digitalis, instead of allowing, with Doctors Darwin, Fowler and Drake, that its good effects depend always upon its power of diminishing secretion, and promoting pulmonary absorption, he observes, that it is equally, and indeed more efficacious in cases where there is no increase of mucus or pus. He attributes the good effects of the remedy in question to its power of correcting the diseased condition of the whole frame, and the train of morbid phenomena resulting from it. His words are:—  
 "It is to these I have been disposed to attribute, in a great degree, its salutary effects in this deplorable malady. If it frequently possesses such a control over the heart as to reduce its contractions from 120, and even 140, to fifty in a minute; if it allays as it does in an extraordinary manner, the cough and irritation of the lungs, and indeed of every part, the advantages thence resulting will be incalculable. The vessels of the diseased lungs will be placed in a condition of secreting

bland healthy fluids; every organ in a state of performing its healthy functions; and thus the unison and harmony which constitute the healthy standard will be established throughout the body."

(To be continued.)

## CHEMISTRY OF THE BLOOD.

By Mr. Charles Bell.

(Continued from page 313.)

### OF THE HEAT OF THE BLOOD.

THE next effect of respiration is the communicating of heat to the body. But I suspect that the small quantity of oxygen which can enter by the lungs do communicate heat, it must be not to the lungs, nor to the blood, but to the whole body through the medium of the blood. There are some who pretend to say, that when they draw in vital air, they feel a genial warmth in the breast, diffusing itself over all the body; but it is easy to feel in this way, or any way, when a favourite doctrine is at stake, while those who know nothing about doctrines breathe the vital air without any peculiar feeling which they can explain.

To suppose but for a moment, that all the heat which warms the whole body emanates from the lungs, were a gross error in philosophy: it were to suppose an accumulation of heat in the lungs equal to this vast effect of heating the whole body. But were it so, we should feel a burning heat in the centre, a mortal coldness at the extremities, and marked differences in the heat of each part in proportion to its distance from the lungs. In fevers, we should feel only the intense heat of the centre; we should be distressed, not with the heat in the soles of the feet or palms of the hands, or in the mouth and tongue; we should feel only the heat of the lungs. When the limbs alone were cold, would the lungs warm them? How could it warm them up to the right temperature without overheating the whole body? When a part were inflamed, how could the heat

\* Take dry leaves of purple foxglove, one ounce,  
 Proof spirit, eight ounces,  
 Let them stand in a warm place for seven days, then strain off the liquor.

Or,

Take fresh leaves of purple foxglove, four ounces,  
 Rectified spirit, five ounces,  
 Let them stand for seven days in a gentle warmth, then strain off the liquor.



go from the lungs, particularly to that point, and rest there?

From the lungs the heat could not be regularly diffused, for in almost all the amphibiae the lungs are far distant from the centre of the body, and could not communicate any degree of heat to the extremities without the greatest waste; they would, according to this theory, have lungs for crying with, if they pleased to cry, but by no means for distributing heat.

It is a law of nature, to which, as far as we know, no exception is found, that a body, while it passes from an aërial to a fluid form, or from a fluid to a solid form, gives out heat. So it might be said, what is the whole business of the living system but a continual assimilation of new parts, making them continually pass from fluid into a solid form? but this would be an erroneous view of the matter.

It were easy to say, that the gases were consumed in breathing, and the fluids in circulation became solids, and therefore heat was generated in the animal body. But unfortunately for this hypothesis, these solids are again melted into fluids, and the fluids are giving out gases; and then as much heat as we might suppose was generated in building up the fabric of the body, would be lost in its decomposition.

This is a subject of much difficulty, as may be readily conceived, when we consider, that for its elucidation, we require to measure the air, and estimate, not the temperature of that air, but the degree of heat it is capable of producing: we are consequently engaged with chemical processes of great delicacy. The received opinion is this: bodies, and even gases, have different capacities for heat, and the heat may make a part of their compound, without being in a state to raise their actual temperature; this property of latent heat was the great discovery of Black. Now it is said that the blood, when going out from the heart to the lungs, differs in its capacity of absorbing and retaining the heat from the same blood on its return: that the arterial blood, re-

turning in the veins, contains more absolute heat, though it be not of a higher temperature than the blood of the veins. It is further alleged, that when the arterial blood is conveyed along the tubes and vessels to the body, and generally diffused, it is not heating the body, because the latent heat is not disengaged, and is not in a state to raise the temperature. But when that arterial blood is converted into venous blood, a process which takes place in the extremities of the arteries and veins of the body, then the latent heat is disengaged, because the venous blood has not the same capacity for retaining it as the arterial blood had; and thus heat is uniformly diffused in proportion to the activity of the arterial circulation, in proportion to the conversion of arterial into venous blood.

#### OF THE RESPIRATION OF ANIMALS.

The effects of oxydation then are, to redden the blood, to renew its stimulant power, and to communicate heat, not so much to the blood, as to the whole body through the medium of the blood, and to assist in the secretions and chemical changes which are incessantly going on in all parts of the system. This is accomplished by the perpetual and rapid motion of the blood through the lungs; and there it is exposed to our atmosphere, which is a mixed fluid very different from what we at first conceive, or what our ignorant wishes might desire to have it; not consisting merely of air fit to be breathed, but for the greatest part formed of an air which is most fatal to animal life, whence it has the name of azotic gas. Of an hundred measures of atmospheric air, we find twenty-seven only to consist of vital or pure air, that is oxygen; seventy-two consist of azotic air, or nitrogen; as it is called, fatal to animal life; and one measure only is fixed air, or carbonic acid, which is also an unrespirable air. But of these twenty-seven parts of pure air, seventeen parts only are affected by respiration, so that in respiration we use



much less than a fifth part, even of the small quantity of air which we take in at each breath.

Within these few years, the following opinions prevailed on this subject. The air in respiration is diminished by the abstraction of a part of the oxygen; there is formed a quantity of carbonic acid gas by the union of the carbon of the blood with the oxygen respired; and there is discharged along with these a quantity of watery halitus. Therefore atmospheric air, after it has been breathed, is found to have suffered these changes:—First, It contains now a considerable proportion of carbonic acid, which is easily discovered, and even weighed; because when a caustic alkali is exposed to it, the alkali absorbs the fixed air and becomes mild. Secondly, It has less of the vital air, as is easily ascertained by the eudiometer, which measures the purity of the whole; and, thirdly, all that remains is merely azotic air, unfit for animal life, or for supporting flame. The oxygen, then, in part unites itself with the blood; in part it forms fixed air by combining with the carbon of the lungs; in part it forms water by combining with the hydrogen of the blood. Respiration frees the blood of two noxious principles, the hydrogen and carbon; and it insinuates a new principle, viz. the oxygen, into the blood.

Such has been the opinion of chemists up almost to the present day; but the rapid changes of opinion, and indeed of whole systems, and the confusion into which the discoveries of to-day throws the result of all preceding labours, would almost provoke an anatomist to put out of his system the chemical discussion altogether, until the masters of that science have better arranged their materials, and have arrived at acknowledged principles. More careful experiments have proved that the volume of air expired is the same with that inspired,—the respired air differing only in the variable proportion of carbonic acid gas, and aqueous vapour; that all the oxygen taken from the atmosphere by respiration, is consumed in

the formation of the carbonic acid gas found in the respired air; and that the heat evolved by respiration is not the heat of the body, but the heat of the air respired, latent before, and now become sensible, owing to a change of capacity in the gases.

The change produced in the blood during the circulation in the lungs, is simply to free it of the superabundance of carbon with which it is loaded in consequence of the secretions performed in the extreme vessels of the system of the body.

As to the heat of the body, chemists seem to have agreed, that full confidence is to be put in the experiments and opinions of Dr. Craufurd, whose theories have been criticised in former editions of this work. The brief abstract of which doctrine we have already given. When the blood of the arteries of the body is converted into purple blood, and enters the small veins, heat is let loose and becomes sensible, giving warmth and a stimulus to the operations of the animal economy. When this venous blood is, in the round of the circulation, brought back to the lungs, it throws out its superabundant carbon, and when this carbon unites with oxygen of the air respired, it forms carbonic acid, and heat is evolved. While this action of respiration is producing heat, it is also forming of venous blood arterial blood. And as the arterial blood, in its conversion into venous blood, gave out heat, so now, being re-converted into arterial blood, it takes up heat, and that heat is not sensible heat, but latent. There is, therefore, no central fire, as it were, in the breast, and yet there is a source of heat to the whole body from the operation of the lungs. And what degree of heat more than necessary for the conversion of the blood, and which might be injurious, is expended in forming the vapour exhaled from the lungs.

In short, it is concluded that the expenditure of heat in an animal, is proportioned to the loss of oxygen, or, which is the same thing, the production of carbonic acid; and that



It is the same in degree, that would be given out in the combustion of charcoal, in a quantity sufficient to produce the same proportion of acid.

### CAUSE OF LIVER COMPLAINTS IN INDIA.

Most people suppose that it is the heat of the climate in the East Indies, that produces so many liver complaints; this is not alone the cause—the Brazils is much hotter, yet these diseases are not by any means so frequent. It is also supposed that free living is the cause; but this is refuted by the fact, that mere water drinkers will be affected, in common with wine-bibbers, and dogs that go from Europe to India, will, in the same profusion of numbers, as men, contract a disease of the liver. The opinion of the natives is, that this formidable complaint is occasioned by the quality of water, and with this opinion we agree. People going to India should look to this point; they should boil the water which is for drink, and then filter it.

### MEDICAL PROPERTIES, &c. OF SULPHUR.

SULPHUR is found native in the neighbourhood of volcanoes; and sometimes, although rarely, in veins traversing primitive rocks. At the Solfatara near Naples, it is dug up in a state of comparative purity, being mixed with a white earth only, from which it is separated by sublimation, and the sulphur thus freed is melted, and cast into moulds forming the roll sulphur of commerce. It is imported into this country chiefly from Sicily and Naples: but a large proportion of what is used in this country is obtained from the roasting of pyrites. At the Pary's mines in Anglesen were works for this purpose on a large scale; where, in working the copper pyrites, the sulphur volatilized in the roasting, was collected in chambers, which were connected with the domes of

the furnaces by means of horizontal flues. Each chamber had a door, by means of which it was cleared of the sulphur once in six weeks. This is the general mode of obtaining sulphur from pyrites, and thus procured, it is in rough, pulverulent, spongy crusts, of a dirty grayish yellow colour. In order to purify it, the crusts are broken and thrown into a boiler, in which it melts; and after the impurities are separated by skimming and subsidence, it is cast into cylindrical moulds, forming roll sulphur; or into cones about two feet high, which form the loaf sulphur of commerce.

The common English roll sulphur is said often to contain a full fifteenth part of orpiment, while the Sicilian sulphur contains seldom more than three per cent. of a simple earth; and therefore is justly preferred. Both of them are purified in the large way by conducting the vapour of melted sulphur into close chambers, where it concretes in the form of a fine powder: but for medicinal use, that which is sublimed by heating in a sand-bath, an earthen cucurbit, charged with roll sulphur, and conveying the vapours to be concreted into a set of alludels placed round the cucurbit, is to be preferred. Prepared in either mode it is the sulphur sublimatum of the pharmacopœias.

Roll sulphur is a crystallized, brittle solid body of a yellow colour, has a peculiar well-known odour when rubbed or heated, and is insipid. It breaks from the heat of the hand, when held in it for a short time: and being a non-conductor of electricity, becomes electrical when rubbed. Its specific gravity is 1.99. Sublimed sulphur is in the form of a very bright yellow powder, and contains a minute portion of sulphuric acid, from which it can be separated by washing it with water. Sulphur volatilizes under 220° Fahr., at which it fuses, and what is singular, by increasing the heat to 320°, it becomes thick and viscid, and if then poured into water, it assumes a red colour and ductility like wax; while its specific gravity is increased to 2.325. At 560°, it be-



comes an elastic fluid. When heated in the air it inflames at  $300^{\circ}$ , and burns with a pale blue flame, emits pungent suffocating vapours, and becomes acidified. It is insoluble in water; but soluble in a small degree in alcohol, ether, and oils; and combines with the alkalies, and many of the earths, and metallic substances. The experiments of Davy led to the supposition that sulphur is a triple compound of oxygen, hydrogen, and a peculiar base, but it is still an undercompounded substance.

Sulphur is laxative, and a stimulating diaphoretic. From the gentleness of its operation on the bowels, it is one of the best means for keeping them lax in hæmorrhoidal affections; and the diaphoresis which it at the same time excites has rendered it serviceable in chronic rheumatism and catarrh, and in atonic gout, rickets, asthma, and other pulmonary affections not attended with acute inflammation. It is supposed that it combines with hydrogen in the stomach. It manifestly transpires through the skin, perhaps, however, in the state of sulphuretted hydrogen, which may be the cause that silver is blackened when kept in the pockets of those who take sulphur. It is specific in scabies and some other cutaneous affections, in which it is applied externally, and taken internally at the same time.

The dose may be from ʒj to ʒiij, mixed into an electuary with syrup or treacle, or in milk. To promote its purgative power it may be combined with super-tartrate of potass; and in hæmorrhoidal cases with magnesia.

#### *On the Necessity and Mode of Cleaning the Teeth.*

WHITE teeth, if naturally white, are a sign of good health; but there is a whiteness of the teeth—a dry glossy whiteness, with pale gums, which is a sign of disease. Most of the English teeth are of a darker hue than those of the Africans, and this

arises from our people's mode of living, indigestion and visceral disease being therefore more frequent than amongst the Africans. Now this darkness or yellowness arises from the quality of the saliva, and the quality of the saliva varies in proportion to the health or derangement of the digestive organs. Hence it is highly necessary to attend to the cleanliness of the mouth and teeth. Discolouration is not the only evil arising from inattention to this point; a loss of appetite is increased by it, and the accumulation of the evil qualities of the saliva affects the newly secreted part of that fluid, and also the very air that is breathed. Let us therefore impress upon our readers the necessity of washing and brushing the mouth and teeth well, the moment they get up in the morning, and also on going to bed at night. We have given in one of our recent numbers, a recipe for a most excellent tooth powder, and this should be used with clear cold water. Equal parts of chalk, bark, and bole-armoniack is also a good tooth powder.

#### ALIVE DEAD.

##### *Extraordinary Case of Colonel Townshend.*

DR. CHEYNE, says, that Colonel Townshend, a gentleman of excellent natural parts, and of great honour and integrity, had for many years been afflicted with constant vomitings, which had made his life painful and miserable. During the whole time of his illness he had observed the strictest regimen, living on the softest vegetables, and lightest animal foods, drinking ass's milk daily, even in the camp; and for common drink, Bristol water, which the summer before his death he had drunk on the spot. But his illness increasing, and his strength decaying, he came from Bristol to Bath in a litter, in autumn, and lay at the Bell inn. Dr. Baynard, who is since dead, and I, were called to him, and attended him twice a day for about the space of a week, but, his vomit,



lungs continuing still incessant and obstinate against all remedies, we despaired of his recovery. While he was in this condition he sent for us early one morning: we waited on him, with Mr. Skrine, his apothecary (since dead also); we found his senses clear, and his mind calm, his nurse and several servants were about him. He had made his will and settled his affairs. He told us he had sent for us to give him some account of an odd sensation he had for some time observed and felt in himself, which was that, composing himself, he could *die* or *expire* when he pleased, and yet by an effort, or some how, he could come to life again: which it seems he had sometimes tried before he had sent for us. We heard this with surprise; but as it was not to be accounted for from tried common principles, we could hardly believe the fact as he related it, much less give any account of it; unless he should please to make the experiment before us, which we were unwilling he should do, lest, in his weak condition, he might carry it too far. He continued to talk very distinctly and sensibly above a quarter of an hour about this (to him) surprising sensation, and insisted so much on our seeing the trial made, that we were at last forced to comply.

We all three felt his pulse first: it was distinct, though small and thready; and his heart had its usual beating. *He composed himself on his back*, and lay in a still posture some time; while I held his right hand, Dr. B. laid his hand on his heart, and Mr. S. held a clean looking-glass to his mouth. I found his pulse sink gradually, till at last I could not feel any, by the most exact and nice touch. Dr. Baynard could not feel the least motion in his heart, nor Mr. Skrine the least soil of breath on the bright mirror he held to his mouth. Then each of us, by turn, examined his arm, heart, and breath, but could not, by the nicest scrutiny, discover the least symptom of life in him. We reasoned a long time about this odd appearance as well as we could, and all of us judging it inexplica-

ble and unaccountable, and, finding he still continued in that condition, we began to conclude indeed that he had carried the experiment too far, and at last were satisfied that he was actually dead and were just ready to leave him. This continued about half an hour, by nine o'clock in the morning, in autumn. As we were going away, we observed some motion about the body, and upon examination found his pulse, and the motion of his heart gradually returning; he began to breathe gently, and speak softly; we were all astonished to the last degree, at this unexpected change, and after some further conversation with him, and among ourselves, went away fully satisfied, as to all the particulars of this fact, but confounded and puzzled, and not able to form any rational scheme that might account for it.

He afterwards called for his attorney, added a codicil to his will, settled legacies on his servants, received the sacrament, and calmly and composedly expired about five or six o'clock that evening."

We shall add the account of the appearances on dissection, under the impression that it by no means exhibits the real state of the case.

Next day he was opened, (as he had ordered) his body was the soundest and best made I had ever seen; his lungs were 'fair' [what does this mean?] large and sound, his heart 'big' and strong, and his intestines sweet and clean; his stomach was of a due proportion, the coats sound and thick, and the villous membrane quite entire; but when we came to examine the kidneys, though the left was perfectly sound, and of a just size, the right was about four times as big, distended like a blown bladder, and yielding, as if full of pap; he having often passed a wheyish liquor after his urine during his illness. Upon opening this kidney, we found it quite full of a white chalky matter, like plaster of Paris, and all the fleshy substance dissolved and worn away, by what I called a nephritic cancer. This



had been the source of all his misery; and the symptomatic vomitings from the irritation on the consentient nerves, had quite starved and worn him down. I have narrated the facts as I saw and observed them deliberately and distinctly, and shall leave to the philosophic reader to make what inferences he thinks fit; the truth of the material circumstances I will warrant.

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*A most extraordinary Escape from the Hydrophobia, 1749.*

*(From a French Record.)*

THE Chevalier ——— returning from hunting, was bit in the arm by a large mastiff dog; there was no blood drawn, for the skin was not broke, the part was covered only with the dog's slaver; all the patient felt was a slight pain, but this went off by the next morning; even the accident was quite forgot, 'till about twenty days after he was hunting, he grew so ill as to faint away; when he recovered out of this fainting-fit, his servants told him he made several wry-faces; here he began to suspect there was something in the case; he however supped abroad, and did not go to bed till about one in the morning; he was scarce two hours in bed, when he raised the whole house by the horrid out-cries he made, they found him stretched on the floor and quite senseless; there could no doubt remain now about the nature of his disorder; the gentleman himself knew it so well, that he desired they would tie him, and it is well they had, for in less than three hours after he had a more violent fit than the first; he was just recovered out of a fourth, when the physician came; the gentleman related to him all that happened; he likewise told him, that he had given orders to prepare a nostrum, with which he often cured his hounds whenever they went mad, and had even cured a young woman of seventeen, who had been bit by a mad ox; this nostrum consisted of calcined oyster shell powder; half an

ounce of this powder is directed to be given in half a pint of white wine, repeating it in twenty-four hours. It is further directed to be given as soon after the bite as possible, before the patient has had a fit; but after he has had a fit, this same powder is directed to be made into an omelet with three new laid eggs; this omelet is to be repeated every twelve hours; the patient is not to drink after it, or during the time that he is taking it; the gentleman took this nostrum with some difficulty, it however did not prevent his having four fits in sixteen hours; he always perceived the fits coming, and would then with a suffocated voice, say to those present, withdraw; his eyes would then turn in his head, and become inflamed; his face and whole body was convulsed; would endeavour to bite every thing about him, and would bark like a dog, his mouth filled with froth; his voice was hoarse and became almost extinct; after this fit he always fainted, and then he looked like a corpse; when he recovered, he expressed great uneasiness, fearing he had bit somebody in his fit; it is however probable that this nostrum had in the end the desired effect, otherwise so many violent fits must necessarily have killed the patient; it is true, he remained four months without being able to move or walk, but by drinking the waters of Plombieres, he perfectly recovered the use of his limbs.

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*Adulteration of Lozenges.*

LOZENGES, particularly those into the composition of which substances enter that are not soluble in water, as ginger, cream of tartar, magnesia, &c. are often sophisticated. The adulterating ingredient is usually pipe-clay, of which a liberal portion is substituted for sugar. The following detection of this fraud was lately made by Dr. T. Lloyd.—(*Literary Gazette*, No. 146.)

"Some ginger lozenges having lately fallen into my hands, I was



not a little surprised to observe, accidentally, that when thrown into a coal fire, they suffered but little change. If one of the lozenges were laid on a shovel, previously made red-hot, it speedily took fire, but instead of burning with a blaze and becoming converted into a charcoal, it took fire, and burnt with a feeble flame for scarcely half a minute, and there remained behind a stony hard substance, retaining the form of the lozenge. This unexpected result led me to examine these lozenges, which were bought at a respectable chemist's shop in the city; and I soon became convinced, that, in the preparation of them, a considerable quantity of pipe-clay had been substituted for sugar. On making a complaint about this fraud at the shop where the article was sold, I was informed that there were two kinds of ginger lozenges kept for sale, the one at three-pence the ounce, and the other at six-pence per ounce; and that the article furnished to me by mistake was the cheaper commodity; the latter was distinguished by the epithet *verum*, they being composed of sugar and ginger only; but the former were manufactured partly of white Cornish clay, with a portion of sugar only, with ginger and Guinea pepper. I was likewise informed, that of tolu lozenges, peppermint lozenges and ginger pearls, and several other sorts of lozenges, two kinds were kept; that the *reduced* articles, as they were called, were manufactured for those very clever persons in their own conceit, who are fond of haggling, and insist on buying better bargains than other people, shutting their eyes to the defects of an article, so that they can enjoy the delight of getting it cheap; and secondly, for those persons, who being but bad paymasters, yet, as the manufacturer, for his own credit's sake, cannot charge more than the usual price of the articles, he thinks himself therefore authorized to adulterate it in value, to make up for the risk he runs, and the long credit he gives.

The comfits called ginger pearls, are frequently adulterated with clay.

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### *Adulteration of Essential Oils, and Methods of Detecting them.*

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A GREAT many of the essential oils obtained from the more expensive spices, are frequently so much adulterated, that it is not easy to meet with such as are at all fit for use; nor are these adulterations easily discoverable. The grosser abuses, indeed, may be readily detected. Thus, if the oil be adulterated with alcohol, it will turn milky on the addition of water; if with expressed oils, alcohol will dissolve the volatile, and leave the other behind; if with oil of turpentine, on dipping a piece of paper in the mixture, and drying it with a gentle heat, the turpentine will be betrayed by its smell. The more subtle artists, however, have contrived other methods of sophistication, which elude all trials. And as all volatile oils agree in their general properties of solubility in spirit of wine, and volatility in the heat of boiling water, &c. it is plain that they may be variously mixed with each other, or the dearer sophisticated with the cheaper, without any possibility of discovering the abuse by any of the before-mentioned trials. Perfumers assert, that the smell and taste are the only certain tests of which the nature of the thing will admit. For example, if a bark should have in every respect the appearance of good cinnamon, and should be proved indisputably to be the genuine bark of the cinnamon tree, yet if it want the cinnamon flavour, or has it but in a low degree, we reject it; and the case is the same with the essential oil of cinnamon. It is only from use and habit, or comparisons with specimens of known quality, that we can judge of the goodness either of the drugs themselves or of their oils.



### *Adulteration of Calomel, and Method of Detecting it.*

THE genuineness of calomel may be ascertained by boiling, for a few minutes, one part with 1-32d part of muriate of ammonia in ten parts of distilled water. When carbonate of potash is added to the filtered solution, no precipitation will ensue if the calomel be pure.

### *Short Advice on Rheumatism.*

WHILE we are preparing to enter fully upon the nature and cure of rheumatism, we think, as the weather begins to get cold, a few words upon the subject will not be amiss to those "whose bones are racked with midnight aches." Let it, then, as a general rule, be observed, to avoid every irregularity of temperature as much as possible. Keep the bowels regular by the following pills—the dose to be taken at night when occasion may require:—

Of antimonial powder, a scruple,  
Calomel, half a scruple,

The compound extract of colocyath,  
a drachm and a half.—Mix, and make  
into twenty pills, one or two a dose.

The bowels being regular, and the pains becoming strong, the patient must get a warm drink of whey or gruel, made at night, have his bed warmed, and having got into it, let him take ten grains of Dover's powder mixed up with a little of his drink. After having taken the warm drink, then let him lie down, covered comfortably, but not heavily. This powder will give relief; but perhaps it may begin to lose its effects after a few doses; however, it should be continued every night as long as it is of service.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

#### *A Dram to keep out the Cold.*

A dangerous remedy; for few who practise it are sufficient judges to know when to stop and where to

begin. If riding in cold weather, or wet through, a quarter of a glass of spirits is not a bad thing.

#### *Cobwebs to cure Fits.*

Absurd and dangerous.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

#### *Stomachic Draught.*

Of infusion of cascarrilla, half an ounce,  
Tincture of cardamums, two drachms.  
Mix—may be taken at any time.



### 23 ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

REPORT OF THE  
DINNER OF THE NEW COLLEGE.  
(Continued from last Number.)

DR. M'DONALD'S health was proposed by the president, to be drunk in pints of porter, which being done, Dr. M'D. rose.—"I feel deeply the honour bestowed upon me by this assembly, and for the marked distinction of drinking my health in pure porter—a beverage which I reverence for its economical and medical benefits. Beer and cheese, Gentlemen, is my motto; with beer and cheese, I say that I have done more in establishing my fame than all the puff-bills in London could accomplish. I defy any member of this assembly to invent a better plan than mine for—as Dr. Jordan expressed himself—'doing the trick.' I am sure to get a crowd to my infirmary. They come, and they talk and gabber over their half pint of beer and bit of cheese which I provide for them, and they go away pleased, and blow me about as the cleverest man alive. Hey, lads, I manage it well; before they get a toothful, I make them pay three-pence for a



ticket; so if I don't get any more out of them, it will give me a penny profit on the beer, which I take care is not over *strong* (*hear, hear*); but the devil a many of them get out of my hands under a couple of shillings, at least, and some as many guineas. A great deal has been said about my mode of practice. I tell you what, Gentlemen, I am none of your milk-and-water practitioners; I slap at them at once, hit or miss. What are strong medicines for, but to use? What's arsenic for? What's mercury for? Why, to rout out the disease, or else the very *bowels*, Gentlemen. At them, I say, with sword in hand,—and don't dilly dally like one of your *regulars*. Salivate them—loosen their teeth—bring up, I say, heart, liver, and lights, or else know for what. Believe me, Gentlemen, mercury, and arsenic, and vitriol, cure all diseases, from the rheumatics down to the yellow jaunders, and I mean to stick to my plan. I swear that I'll kill a thousand, or else I'll kill the disease—that I will; besides, the remedies are cheap, and that's half the battle. I'll just shew you how I treated a fellow last week with cancer:—I threw in the mercury like fury—rubbed him all over with it—vomited him and purged him in real good style—blistered the neck and the two legs—bled him—and gave him one of my warm baths—making, in all, a bill of about £13 in a fortnight; and just as I had him, as nice and as weak as I could wish, so as that I could do any thing with him I pleased, he was so limber that he died. How provoking! but, by G—, I'm not done yet; I'll—

Just at this moment, Mr. Abrahams said, that Dr. McDonald's wife was waiting below, and sent word to him to come home and go to bed directly; at which the doctor's elevated crest fell suddenly, and, hoping the company would excuse him, he withdrew.

Dr. Laing's health was then drank, who spoke as follows:—

“Gentlemen, and Madam, (turning politely to Mrs. Johnson), I

have long wished for this honour—long hoped that I should stand up amongst you, identified with you as a member of a profession which has liberty for its motto—no stiff and scientific shackles to controul—no sinican reputation to keep it from soaring into the regions of experiment—as Dr. McDonald's practice, and indeed all your practice, demonstrates fully. It is true I cure by the *water*, and therefore am in the same line with my worthy friend, Dr. Cameron, who sits there with the pot before him; but I trust there is no animosity between us on that line of business; for there is some little difference between us: we do not clash so much as people think. I am a *water-caster* and Dr. Cameron is a *water-taster*—that is a great difference in point of practice.

“I will just state to you, gentlemen, how I have managed to get a name, I *stare* them into a cure; I sits them down opposite me, and putting my hands in my pockets, look full in their faces; then shake my head, downwards or sideways as the case may require; and so I am set down for a wonderful man, who can tell by just looking at faces all sorts of diseases. I charge each patient five shillings and sixpence for his medicines; or half a guinea for that, and a ticket for another consultation. This was my father's plan; he brought it over from Germany, and if he were now alive, he would be one of the warmest advocates for the establishment of a new college; and none would be more deserving of a place in it: however I trust that I shall not be wanting in zeal to promote its interests against all those *regular* medical humbugs, who monopolize so much to the detriment of us spontaneous doctors.”—(loud applause.)

Dr. L. then proposed the health of his worthy compeer Dr. Cameron.

Dr. Cameron then rose. “I am happy and proud to be thus honored, at our first professional dinner, and coming from such a quarter as from my friend Dr. Laing, I feel doubly so. That worthy physician has hoped that there is no



unanimity existing between him and me; that I hope, and trust also. We are different kinds of practitioners as he said, and even if we were not, there are a sufficient number of gulls for us both in England. You do not know, Gentlemen, that I keep an apothecary's shop at Deptford, and that I am the physician of London one day, and the Deptford Apothecary the next; thus keeping the mill hot, as it were. When I come up to town, I just pop on a powdered wig, and when I return to Deptford, I wear my own black hair, so that even if a patient come, that knows me as the apothecary, I fix my face, stare my eyes, and talk in a thick voice, which, with the powdered wig, completely disguises me. I have been several years dabbling in my favourite *fluid*, and I trust I have proved that I am worthy of the honour I now hold, of being a member of the new college; (hear hear,) I will now give you gentlemen, *Dr. Eady, and the liberty of the press;*" (drank with applause.) Dr. Eady returned thanks. "I am," said the doctor, "notwithstanding the shafts of envy and malice, arrived at the happiest hour of my life. I have been attacked by the illiberal regulars in crowds—in shoals—but I have driven the chariot of truth and justice over all, and sounded my trumpet on the walls of London. I have given a *blister to Burnet the Goose*, until I made him hiss again; and I have consumed fifty thousand pound bills in working his destruction. *Truth and Dr. Eady, Gentlemen, shall ride triumphant over malevolence and regularity, (bravo! bravo! hear! hear!)* I beg to give a toast,—my reverend friend and brother in the work of the Lord, Dr. Gardiner," (drank with applause.) Dr. Gardiner being at this moment sent for, to read prayers to a patient of his that was dying, he merely returned thanks briefly, and withdrew.

Dr. Lynch, and a speedy abolition to slave driving, being given, Dr. L. spoke as follows:—

[We are obliged to break off here, for want of room, the conclusion, which—was an odd one, for a com-

pany of physicians—in our next number.]

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I beg to correct you as to Oliver, whom you mention in your last, coupled with the Jordans. The late Edward Oliver, was not a Jew, being the youngest son of the late Rev. T. Oliver, rector of Wellington, in the county of Salop, a gentleman well known and highly respected. The late Edward Oliver was, when *himself*, a most agreeable companion, and as much a gentleman in manners as any person could be. He was a member of the College, and, having served abroad in the army, was well known and respected by a most numerous circle of gentlemen for talent and respectability. During actual service in Walcheren, his health required stimulants, and habits of conviviality overcame his reasoning faculties, and involved him in difficulties. Whilst out of the way at Bristol, on account of some pecuniary embarrassments, he became acquainted with Jordan, who was then in some very humble walk of life, very different from a professional man; what it was, I do not now remember, but I perfectly remember Oliver having frequently assured me, that out of a joke, on meeting Jordan in London one night when Oliver was three parts tipsy, he persuaded Jordan, from the example of Solomon, that he might establish a balm that would out-Solomon Solomon. Jordan listened to it, and Oliver gave him a prescription; and as he often said the idea of *rascal* was so uppermost as a proper epithet for Jordan, that he gave it the name of Rakasiri; and I have one of the first bills that were printed, and which Oliver gave me, to shew how soon a thing of the kind would be caught at by the unprincipled scoundrels, as he often declared he gave the prescription and the name in joke. I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

VERITAS.

[Mr. Oliver gave it in JOKE, mind ye; it has since proved SERIOUS to many a poor patient.—ED.]



## DR. LAING.

To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.

SIR,

I STRONGLY suspect that the letter inserted in a recent Number of your valuable Publication, in vindication of Laing, was either written by himself, or by an amanuensis employed for that purpose. If you would be convinced of his practice, you have only to make enquiries of the family or friends of the late Mr. Bohle, the foreign bookseller in York-street, Covent Garden, who died about a month ago, after an illness of five days. He was first attended by Laing; but finding he grew worse, a regular physician was called in the day before he died; but, alas! it was too late. Had the latter been engaged at first, I have no doubt Bohle would have been—  
(Here the words of the MS. were blotted out.)

Lang's father was a noted charlatan in Germany, his native place, and hearing of the credulity of the Bull family, and that, generally speaking, they paid better than the Germans, he came over to England to dispense his damnable nostrums among the cockneys; and, I strongly suspect, appointed his son his water-taster. Allow me, Mr. Editor, *calamo currente*, to enquire if any of your numerous readers know any thing of an Italian, whose real name I am unacquainted with, but who, since his residence in England, has assumed the cognomen of Granville, and is generally styled Dr. Granville. He was brought to this country, I believe, by a Mr. Hamilton, but why did he change his name? Was he regularly educated? Has not he, as well as Laing, contributed to the amusement of the readers of the "MEDICAL ADVISER," in the letter of which I have been speaking?

I am, Sir,

Your's very respectfully,

A PHYSICIAN

AND SUBSCRIBER.

Monday, October 11, 1821.



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

In Tully's Narrative of Ten Years Residence in Tripoli, it is stated, that the number of people buried alive amongst the Moors amount to nearly one-third of the people, owing to the practice of immediate interment after apparent death, which arises from a belief that the soul cannot be happy until the body be under ground. This practice is carried to such extent, that the body of the sick, whenever it becomes comatose, is put into the earth. Nothing is more desirable to the friends of the apparently deceased, than to see him smile when washing, as they believe then that he is blessed. This smile, or contraction of the muscles, often occurs from the operation of washing the body, not yet dead, with cold water.

A provincial paper states, that one of the two dissenting clergymen committed to the Aylesbury gaol for asking alms, broke a blood-vessel by the labour of the tread-wheel.

*Caution in cases of Apoplexy.*—A man of the name of Stewart, a gardener, some time ago, at Belfast, fell down in a fit, was bled by the surgeon, who got but little blood from the arm, and the man was left, after an hour's attention, apparently dead. In the course of the night, however, the arm bled profusely—nearly covered the floor! This is a similar case with one told by Dr. Gordon Smith in his *Forensic Medicine*, and shews the necessity of watching cases of apparent death from apoplexy, for at least twelve hours. This case of the gardener was communicated to us by the master of the deceased.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

X. *Editor of a daily paper, (Rochester,)* is informed that we know nothing of the transaction; other parties had the arrangement.

THE Editor of the Medical Adviser has been informed, that letters have been written to several of the evening papers, purporting to come from him. *He has written no such letters*, and would feel obliged by any information which would lead to the discovery of the imposition.

A. B. B. state your case again.

JAMES (UNEASY.) Take a warm bath at night, and five grains of James's powder.

HAMPSTEAD. It is very possible the symptoms complained of are of little consequence; however write a full statement of the case, and of our former advice.

X. Y. Blister over the hip joint, and rest a fortnight, keeping the bowels free by salts; then write. Both cases are similar.

SONO is doing well.

R. A's deafness must be patiently borne. Use a drop of sweet oil occasionally, and syringe the ears with soap suds. The smoke could not be passed safely by the external opening.

JUNIUS's answer is at our publishers.

ALFRED M. Use an injection of sulphate of zinc and water, three grains to an ounce, three times a day, and take a scruple of cream of tartar and a scruple of gum arabic in a pint of water, every second day. Melt the powders in a little warm water first, and then add the cold.

R. Y. When the pain comes on, take a table spoonful of the decoction of bark, acidulated with a few drops of sulphuric acid; and do not eat much at a time, nor of hard meats. Keep the bowels regular by from five to fifteen grains of rhubarb daily.

I CAN. It shall.—The work will be out in a couple of months.

J. E. H. Chamois waistcoats should *not* be worn *next* the skin, but outside the linen; they are good when sleeved.

LEGALIS. G. S. M.—E. B.—W. W.—Anonymous; ANNE R. and T. S. O. have come to hand.

CONFUNOUS is wise but obscure; let him give us his opinions at a future period, in a few words.

All letters containing addresses which required written answers, shall receive them on Thursday.

We thank Mr. S——, of Southampton. Every attention in our power shall be given.

The Ilminster doctor mentioned in our work, page 299, in the letter signed "Thomas Cranfield," has run away. This is the best point in his practice—at least for his patients.

Can any of our friends give us an account of CAFFANATA, the quack, of Leeds? We want him.



# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

## GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 52.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



ENCHIRIDION; OR, A HAND FOR THE ONE-HANDED.

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## THE ENCHIRIDION;

Or, a Hand for the One-Handed.

(Continued from p. 338.)

Fig. 1. The *Egg-Cup* represented in the Engraving is of silver, but plated ones look extremely handsome, and are of course more moderate in price. It is applied to the stem of the ball and socket, which is then fastened to the breakfast-table, and allows the egg-cup to be inclined in any direction: the upper part of the egg-cup takes off, to admit of the egg being put in, and then, being fastened on again, it keeps the egg stationary, having an orifice at the top sufficiently large to admit the spoon.

Fig. 2. A more portable and less costly *Egg-Holder* is represented in this Plate. It is made of steel; attaches to the ball and socket, when wanted, and when not in use, folds into so small a compass as peculiarly to fit it for the pocket of a traveller, under the circumstances of those to whom I am addressing myself.

Fig. 3. The *Pen-Knife* represented in the Engraving is furnished with a spring, by applying the thumb-nail to which, the blade slides in and out with ease; which renders it safer for a one-handed person than those commonly in use. It will likewise be found convenient in the pocket, as containing a comb, and a turn-screw; and being marked on the outside at regular intervals, it will, when open, serve as a scale or measure of six inches in length.

Fig. 4. The *Quill-Holder* is a very simple instrument, by applying which to the stem of the universal joint, and ivory vice, and fastening the whole to the table, a pen may be made or mended, and a pencil pointed, by only one hand, with as much ease and expedition as if two were employed in doing it. The instrument must be placed on the defective side, so as to make the table a support for the arm. By putting a small tapered piece of ivory, or quill, into the pen, similar to that which is represented in the Engraving, the pen may be nibbed very well with one hand. This

operation, however, may be performed still more accurately by the *Pen-Nibber* (Fig. 5.) here represented, and which will be found as useful for persons of imperfect sight as for the one-handed. The nib of the pen is formed in a moment by placing it under the chisel, which is then pressed quickly upon it.

Having provided for the pens and pencils, a *Ruler* (Fig. 6.) is the next object of consideration. This in the Engraving above differs in no way from that in common use, excepting in being made considerably heavier, in order to enable it to resist the pressure made against it in drawing lines, and likewise to keep the paper steady; which will be still better done by placing the leaden cushion already mentioned upon it, and it may likewise be made useful in keeping open the leaves of a book.

Fig. 7. This engraving represents a *Steel Vice*, which will be found serviceable on many occasions, particularly to those who are fond of mechanical pursuits. It can be applied to the ivory vice at the under-part, or screw end, where there is a small brass socket to receive it, and which should be placed uppermost when this article is made use of; it is secured yet more firmly by a little thumb-screw, which is represented in the engraving of the ivory vice.

Fig. 8. *Hat Stick*. In the centre of this hat-stick or stretcher, is a joint which fits into the screw end, which in this case is placed uppermost, of the ivory vice, and it is thus fastened to the edge of a table. The small brass socket and thumb-screw mentioned in the preceding article, hold it sufficiently steady for the purpose. The supporters, which screw into the hat-stick on each side, are for the hat to rest on, and the cross bar is to keep them in their proper situation. When the hat is placed on these supporters, the stretcher can be lengthened or shortened by one hand without any difficulty; accordingly as it may be required. In case of getting wet, it will be found equally conducive to economy and comfort, to be enabled, by this simple contrivance, to sponge a hat, or rub it dry, with-



out being obliged to wait for the assistance of another person.

Fig. 9. The *Knife and Fork*. It will be seen by the Engraving that the knife and fork form but one instrument. The knife is curved in the form of a cheese-cutter, and terminates in four prongs, which act as a fork; it cuts by pressure, and as quickly as any other knife can accomplish, or as the most active gourmand can desire.

Three blades form a set. They are curved according to the hand for which they may be required; and the fork of one of them is plated, so as to answer the purposes of a silver one. They are all made to fit the same handle, within which is a spring to hold them tight; and they can be changed with the utmost facility, by slightly pressing on the table the end of the handle where the spring projects a little, holding at the same time the blade which is to be removed between the fore finger and thumb, in order to prevent its falling out upon the table-cloth.

For portability, the handle and blades have a small red morocco case, which opens by the slight pressure of a spring; and thus a person who has only the use of one hand, may sit down in any company with as much ease and independence as the rest of the guests,

“No fear lest dinner cool,”

who would otherwise be obliged to tax the politeness of his next neighbour for assistance.

Fig. 10. The *Nut Crackers* in common use,—a pivot such as is represented in the Engraving, whereby it may be attached to the ball and socket, when fastened to the edge of the table; and thus it is rendered firm, and convenient to the hand.

Fig. 11. The *Card-Holder* above represented will be found as useful as it is simple and portable. It consists of fourteen slips of silver or steel, which fold up, and open out like a fan. It is fastened to the table by means of the ball and socket so often mentioned, because so often useful; and will be found

to possess in perfection one quality very requisite in the game of whist, and that is, of holding the cards in such a manner that they are not liable to be seen by any of the party, excepting the person to whom they belong.

Fig. 12. A left hand holding a *Pair of Snuffers*, such as are in general use. I introduce it in this place in order to shew those who have lost the right hand, or are left-handed, how to snuff a candle neatly and expeditiously. There are left-handed snuffers made on purpose for those who may require them; but of course they are seldom found in the apartments of others. It is therefore much better to learn the simple method here recommended, and which the reader can more readily become acquainted with from looking at the Engraving, than from any explanation that can be given of it.

Fig. 13. A *Watch wound up* by only one hand, is likewise so explanatory, that it is scarcely necessary to say any thing in addition to it. I will however remark, that it is done by taking hold of the handle of the watch with the two middle fingers; the key is then taken up by the forefinger and thumb, which place it in the key-hole, and turn it without any trouble. A hunting watch, or one with the key-hole in the dial-plate, is not well adapted for a one-handed person, as the interference of the crystal renders it tedious, and difficult to turn the key.

(The above extracts and plates are from Captain Derenzy's work entitled “*Enchiridion*,” a most ingenious and useful little work.)

## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 278.)

IN opposition to the theories of Drs. Drake and Fowler, and to that of Dr. McLean, with respect to the mode of action of the digitalis, there are some practitioners who allow its having no other powers than those of a sedative nature. This opinion seems by no means to be well founded. The *modus operandi* of this plant does not seem however to be clearly understood as yet.



Let its powers depend upon what they may, certain it is that its success is proportioned to its early exhibition; and that, therefore, in every case where the disease arises in a phthisical habit, or is clearly marked, it ought to be had recourse to without any farther loss of time. As the saturated tincture recommended by Dr. McLean appears to be its best preparation, we should give it the preference.

In administering foxglove, it will be necessary to attend to the state of the pulse under different positions of the body; for it appears by the report of some physicians, that there is a considerable difference of its velocity in the erect and recumbent postures. A case is recorded in the third volume of the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, page 271, in which, after taking this medicine, the pulse was not lessened in frequency when the patient stood erect, being upwards of an hundred. When he sat down it fell considerably; and when lying on his back it fell much more. When sitting, it was reduced to seventy-five, and when lying, to forty. The experiment was repeated many times, and always with the same effect. The like singularity is noticed by Dr. Hamilton in his *Treatise on Digitalis*.

Hemlock is a remedy which has been much recommended in glandular affections. As a narcotic, it may be useful in some cases of tubercular consumption, but opium most likely will answer this purpose better. It may be given, conjoined with myrrh, in the form of pills, when we wish to make trial of it.

Muriate of barytes is another remedy which has been much recommended by some physicians in incipient phthisis, as well as scrofula. It is best given in the form of the *solutio muriatis barytæ*, at first in doses of five or six drops, which may afterwards be increased to twenty, twenty-five, or thirty, twice or thrice a-day.

In that variety of the disease which appears to be occasioned by an enlarged and indurated state of the abdominal viscera, or the lymphatic glands of the mesentery, we

are told by Dr. Wilson that he found mercury a valuable remedy, and that he has seen the patient saved by it even at an advanced stage. Mercury is, indeed, a remedy which has been much recommended, and sometimes employed in the early stages of phthisis pulmonalis by a few physicians in America, but more particularly by Dr. Rush. I think, however, it promises no relief, except in the cases Dr. Wilson used it. In all others it may be more likely to aggravate the disease than amend it.

In the early stage of phthisis, the exhibition of an emetic every second or third day is usually attended with a very happy effect, and seems indeed to be one of the most powerful remedies we know of. As such, it should never be neglected, with an exception to pregnant women. From the *cupri sulphas* having been found to excite vomiting readily and easily, without relaxing the stomach, irritating the intestines, or greatly fatiguing the patient, it has been more generally used in phthisical cases than any other medicine of the same class. The dose is from three grains to ten or fifteen, in proportion to the age of the patient, dissolved in two or three ounces of water. A vomiting is excited soon after it is received into the stomach, on which the patient may drink a pint of water.

Dr. Maryatt seems to have been one of the first who recommended the employment of the *cupri sulphas* as an emetic in phthisical cases. He advised it to be combined with tartarized antimony in the proportion of seven grains of each, which he directs to be divided into three powders, one of which is to be given twice or thrice a-week. When any diarrhœa attends, he gives one grain of the *cupri sulphas* with five grains of *ipecacuanha*. During the operation of the medicine he advises nothing to be drank, for which reason he calls it the dry vomit.

Dr. Senter, in his *Remarks on Phthisis Pulmonalis*, assures us, that he has restored more persons labouring under hectic fever from glandular suppuration by vomiting



every second or third day with the cupri sulphas, and giving in the intervals as much as the stomach would bear of Dr. Griffith's myrrh mixture (hereafter to be mentioned), than by all other methods he has ever read of or tried. He looks upon the sulphate of copper to be one of the most safe and efficacious emetics, joined with ipecacuanha, that the materia medica furnishes us with, and advises from seven to ten grains of each, made up into pills, to be taken in the morning fasting, without drinking any thing afterwards.

To the good effects of the mode of treatment pursued by Dr. Senter, I can bear ample testimony, having adopted it in many cases of incipient phthisis with infinite advantage.

As the cough often proves troublesome in the first stage of the disease, as well as in the last, it may be found necessary to make use of some pectoral. In such cases, the patient, besides using these medicines as necessity may render needful, should take for ordinary drink what is here\* recommended. In this stage of the disease, opiates would be likely to prove prejudicial, and we should resort to them only in those cases where the rest at night is much disturbed. The extractum papaveris, in doses of five grains or more, should be preferred to opium. The digitalis, by allaying the irritation of the lungs, in consequence of its retarding the circulation through them, may be of much advantage in appeasing the cough.

Hyoscyamus and the humulus lupulus have been employed with advantage where opium cannot be administered; but we are told by Dr. Duncan, senior, that of all the substitutes for opium which he had ever used in practice, he had found none of so much benefit, in phthisis particularly, as the preparations formed from the inspissated white juice of the common garden lettuce, or lactuca sativa of Linnæus. Dr. Duncan thinks favourably of the

effect of inhaling the vapour of sulphuric æther in which the dried leaves of conium maculatum have been macerated; and he recommends it as particularly relieving the cough and dispnoea, and promoting expectoration.

The hydro-cyanic (Prussic) acid has lately been given in phthisis. The medicine was first introduced into practice by the Italians, under the form of distilled laurel water, and has been given by them and the physicians of other nations in various affections, known to depend on inflammatory excitements of some organ, as well as on some species of more evident chronic inflammation. It has been considered by Dr. Granville to be a valuable and powerful remedy in checking the progress of pulmonary consumption, when in its incipient state. We are told by him that it is eminently sedative; that it appears to exert its influence on the nervous system; that it gradually diminishes all irritability, checks too rapid circulation, and calms many of the symptoms of fever. If a dry cough be present, it is said to promote expectoration in the first instance, and subsequently to stop the cough itself. In hectic fevers, it affords ease, lowers the pulse, diminishes the force and number of the paroxysms, works a favourable change in the action of the lungs and their circulation, while the morbid heat of the skin, and the circular flush of the cheeks gradually disappear. The night sweats are also said to be soon suspended.

In consequence of the powers attributed to it by Dr. Granville, I was induced to make trial of it in several cases, but with no other advantage than that of reducing the pulse very considerably, indeed. It has been recommended to begin with the dose of two drops, repeating this about four times a-day, and so gradually increasing it to three or four. In all prescriptions having this acid as one of the ingredients, it is indispensably necessary to use no other than distilled water, as decomposition of the salts contained in common water, or of the acid itself, will, otherwise, take place. Prussic acid, although

---

\* Take decoction of barley, two pints,  
Gum acacia, three drachms,  
Syrup of lemons, one ounce and a half.  
Mix them for ordinary drink.



contained in small quantity in bitter almonds, the kernels of apricots, and several plumbs, the leaves of the peach, nectarine, and lauro-cerasus, is obtained by a chemical process recommended by Vauquelin.

(To be Continued.)

## THEORY OF SLEEP.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

Sir,

IF you should consider the following observations on sleep in any way acceptable to the very numerous readers of your valuable publication, you will probably do me the favour (who am a constant reader of the same) by honouring them with a place.

I am, Mr. Editor,

Your most obedient servant,

JÉAN.

In order to form some idea of sleep, it will be first necessary to consider the brain, which you have so ably treated upon lately. The brain is a most wonderful laboratory;—there it is, that this precious extract, which some call animal spirits, are drawn off from the blood. The animal spirits are very subtile corpuscles, separated from the blood, or prepared by a great number of strainers, and of a fineness and delicacy almost infinite. These spirits being separated or formed in the labyrinths of the brain, insinuate themselves into the imperceptible tubes of the nerves, whose origin is in the cerebellum, and penetrates them as the juice penetrates the fibres of the hardest trees, which swell and extend them. Now, supposing there be a circulation carried on by the brain and nerves with these animal spirits, (which is not contrary to reason); as necessary for their immediate communication with each other, we can possibly account for the phenomena of sleep. We may readily conceive that when these nerves, which are said to be very small hollow vessels, are filled or swelled with these animal spirits,

which are imagined to be an extremely fine fluid, that extension of the nerves produces watching; or wakefulness; and when we feel fatigued, we are induced to sleep by a very languid circulation of these spirits, which almost amounts to a cessation in a time of deep sleep. This failure of the spirits produces a sinking of the nerves, and consequently that nodding of the head, and sinking of the body, so very observable in a person falling to sleep in a chair,—the nerves now being limber and flabby, are no longer able to support the frame, and we therefore fall into a state of slumber. We may likewise observe the nervous fluid's (if I may so term it) great susceptibility of the motion of the blood, which is much slower in circulation when sleeping than when awake, and proportionably rapid as we exercise our frames, in which motion, we must be well aware, our nerves exactly participate in.

In drinking of wines, or spirituous liquors, the motion of the blood is greatly increased, the flowing of the spirits are equally affected, and we feel quite animated, strong, and vigorous both in mind and body, except when immoderately taken, and then the fumes or the vapours of the liquors rising to the head, confuses the circulation of the spirits, which stupifies the mind and debilitates the body, therefore induces sleep by greater effect, the spirits requiring reparation by rest of what they have lost by excessive excitement. This torpidity of the nervous fluids, which produces sleep, (as above mentioned), manifests that it is brought on by a decrease of their fluidity by watchfulness, but by their being replenished and prepared again by the blood during slumber, it causes that natural refreshment which we feel when we awake, one hour of which, on the top-mast head of a ship, would be more conducive to rest, than several hours lying awake on a downy bed, which manifests the impossibility of rendering a satisfactory rest to our bodies, without these nervous fluids falling into a state of rest themselves, which constitutes sleep itself.



[The above hypothesis, although ingenious, will not bear examination. The writer says, that "the fumes of the vapours of the liquors, rising to the head, confuse the circulation." Now there can be no such thing; and we think that the writer is not an anatomist, from that observation. If, according to his argument, stimulus produces watchfulness, his theory falls, as the idea of *fumes rising* is false. However, the theory of sleep will require abler brains than either his or mine to expound it; but as an *hypothesis*, we must say that our theory of sleep given in the last number, will bear reasoning upon much better than this.—ED.]

\*\*\* There was an error in heading our article last week. "New theory of sleep", as it now appears, seems to imply that the foregoing extract was so entitled, whereas it should head the following paragraph.

#### THE DEVL THE CAUSE OF APPARITIONS.

*From Dr. Hibbert's Work on Apparitions.*

KING JAMES conceived that the wraiths, or simulacra of the Scottish Highlands, were attributable to the devil. The following dialogue appears in his Demonology:

"Phi. And what meane these kind of spirits, when they appeare in the shadow of a person newly dead, or to die, to his friends?

"Epi. When they appeare upon that occasion, they are called wraithes in our language. Amongst the Gentiles the diuell used that much, to make them believe that it was some good spirit that appeared to them then, either to forwarne them of the death of their friend, or else to discover unto them the will of the defunct, or what was the way of his slaughter; as it is written in the booke of the Histories prodigious."

But some metaphysicians were not content with maintaining that the phantasms of profane history were attributable to the devil; it was, indeed, a very favourite notion entertained by theologians, that the

ghost of Samuel was nothing but an illusion caused by Satan to disturb the mind of Saul. Cowley, the poet, in his censure of those who blindly use their reason in divine matters, himself affords the best illustration of the false arguments against which his philippic was directed:

Sometimes their sanciis they 'bove reason  
set,

And fast, that they may dream of meat.  
Sometimes ill sp'rits their sickly souls  
delude,

And bastard forms obtrude.

So Endor's wretched sorceress, altho'  
She Saul through his disguise did know,  
Yet when the devil comes up disguis'd,  
she cries,

Behold! the gods arise.

This ridiculous explanation of the text of Holy Writ, arose from the notion, that magicians, through the means of the devil, often induced the spectral illusions. A curious illustration of the prevalence of this belief, which extended even to modern days, is given in the Memoirs of the Duke of Berwick.

A French army encamp'd before Saragossa, in 1707, under the command of the Duke of Orleans:—"The Count de la Puebla, to retain the people of Arragon in subjection as long as possible, and by that means to retard the progress of the Duke of Orleans, persuaded the inhabitants of Saragossa that the reports of the march of a fresh army from Navarre were false; and even that the camp which they saw was nothing real, but only a phantom produced by magic; in consequence of which the clergy made a procession on the ramparts, and from thence exorcised the pretended apparitions. It is astonishing that the people were so credulous as to entertain this fancy, from which they were not undeceived till the next day, when the Duke of Orleans' light horse, having pursued a guard of horse of Puebla's briskly to the very gates of the city, cut off several of their heads there. Then indeed the citizens were alarmed, and the magistrates appeared, to make their submission to his Royal Highness. I could not have believed what I have related, if I had not been as-



sured of its truth at Saragossa by the principal people of the city."

A similar notion of the devil's power to raise apparitions was even a superstition in the Highlands, and was supposed to account for some of the phenomena of second-sight.— "A woman of Stornbay," says Martin, "had a maid who saw visions, and often fell into a swoon; her mistress was very much concerned about her, but could not find out any means to prevent her seeing those things; at last she resolved to pour some of the water used in baptism on her maid's face, believing this would prevent her seeing any more sights of this kind. And accordingly she carried her maid with her next Lord's day, and both of them sat near the basin in which the water stood, and after baptism, before the minister had concluded the last prayer, she put her hand in the basin, took up as much water as she could, and threw it on the maid's face; at which strange action the minister and the congregation were equally surprised. After prayer the minister inquired of the woman the meaning of such an unbecoming and distracted action; she told him, it was to prevent her maid's seeing visions; and it fell out accordingly, for from that time she never once more saw a vision of any kind. This account was given me by Mr. Morison, minister of the place, before several of his parishioners, who knew the truth of it. I submit the matter of fact to the censure of the learned; but, for my own part, I think it to have been one of Satan's devices, to make credulous people have an esteem for holy water."

There were again other views taken of Satan's influence. It was supposed that the devil was a great natural philosopher. "Summus opticus et physicus" [est,] says Hoffman, "propter diuturnam experientiam." But no one so well as Dr. Behker, in his *Monde Enchanté*, has shewn what the devil can do by dint of his knowledge of the laws of nature.

"I mean to speak of illusions, which Schottus, together with Delrio and Molina, declares to be of three

sorts; those that are made by the change of the objects, those that are made by the change of the air, and those that happen by the change of the organs of the senses.

"First, Illusions are made by the change of the object, when one thing is substituted instead of another that has been suddenly and imperceptibly snatched away; or when an object is presented to the eyes, in such a state and manner as that it produces a false vision; or when any object made up of air, or of some other element, offers itself to the sight; or, lastly, when there appears any thing composed of different matters mingled together, and so skilfully prepared, that what existed before receives thereby another form and figure.

"Second, The change of the air is made by these ways, when the devil hinders, lest the object should pass through the air and hit our eyes; when he disposes the air that is betwixt the object and the eye in such a manner that the object appears in another figure than really it is; when he thickens the air to make the object appear greater than it is, and to hinder it from being seen in other places but the place he designs; when he moves the air in the place through which the object is to hit the eye, that the object going through that part of the air may also be moved, and that its figure may be presented to the eye otherwise than it is; and, lastly, when he mingles and confounds together several different figures, in order that in one only object there may appear many together.

"Third, The organs of the senses are changed; when they are either transferred from their places and altered; when their humours and active particles are corrupted and thickened; or when such a shining brightness passes before the eyes, that they are dazzled, so that it seems that a man raves waking.

"Such was the hypothesis of learned demonologists. Satan was considered as deeply versed in all material and vital phenomena, and as inducing spectral impressions by the application of those laws which



he so well comprehended. Hence the compliment which Hoffman and others have paid to his great talents and learning. But as divers moral reasons prevent me from joining in this eulogium, I shall pay no farther tribute to so distinguished a character, than by presenting to the gentle reader as faithful a portrait of him as I have been able to procure. It is from a grotesque sculpture of the sixteenth century, which still graces the oaken pannels of the ancient seat of the Prestwiches, Barons, of Lancashire; an unfortunate family, whose property fell a sacrifice to their steady perseverance in the cause of the royalists. A drawing of this curious design was very kindly undertaken for the author by a friend, whose accurate and elegant sketches of the relics of past times have been frequently acknowledged by the antiquary. To "those gentle ones," therefore, that, in the language of our great bard, "will use the devil himself with courtesy," the sketch is respectfully submitted. A more philosophic devil was perhaps never depicted; he not only appears to be well versed in the abstruse metaphysics of the period in which he sat for his portrait, but seems to be in the very act of expounding them: and, since he has been regarded by very sage authority as the efficient cause of all the phenomena in which we have been so seriously engaged, there cannot, surely, be any material impropriety in allowing him to grace the conclusion of these laborious lucubrations.

"Claudite jam rivos."

(The plate of the drawing next week.)

*Lost or Imperfect Sight Restored;  
an important and accidental Discovery.*

[THE following case which is from the Wesleyan Methodist Magazine, for last month, is worthy of every attention; and we gladly lay it before our readers, advising them who may be affected by imperfect vision from *any weakness of the nerves*, to try the remedy. It is on good princi-

ples, and we only wonder it never occurred to medical practitioners. We mean to give it every trial.] ED.

*Remarkable Cure of Amaurosis, or Gutta Serena, in the Case of the REV. JACOB STANLEY, Wesleyan Methodist Minister, now in Bristol.*

IN the month of September, 1813, when stationed in the Liverpool Circuit, one night, whilst I slept, I was attacked by Gutta Serena. Of this I had no previous intimation; my sight till that time, having been perfectly good, and my general health excellent; with the exception of occasional head-aches, to which I had been more or less subject from my childhood. The disease affected my left eye only. When I awoke, I perceived light from the corners of my eye; but, before it, were spots of various kinds; some gilded, and some black; and a large black body resembling, sometimes, flakes of soot, and at other times a piece of fringed black gauze. At first I thought some matter had collected on the surface of the eye; but after wiping it with my handkerchief, and washing it with water, I found the cause lay deeper.

I applied to a respectable medical friend in Liverpool, who pronounced it Gutta Serena. His opinion was confirmed by one highly distinguished in the profession at Dudley; to whom I made a journey on that occasion. I was put under an alterative course of medicine; took a kind of mercurial snuff; was electrified in the eye by sparks, and had the electric fluid poured in from a wooden point; had a solution of cayenne dropped into it twice a day; and was repeatedly blistered in the temples and behind the ears. From these means I certainly derived some benefit; but the process being tedious and confining, and ill comporting with my public duties, and finding that my right eye continued good, I deliberately came to the resolution to pass through life with one eye: a resolution which I have lived long enough to regret.

In the latter end of the year 1816, in consequence of preaching one



evening in wet clothes, I caught cold, which induced Gutta Serena in my right eye. The spots and the cloud hindered distinct vision. After a few days I was nearly blind. I became alarmed; and applied to an eminent Oculist, Mr. Ware, of London, from whom I received much kindness, and to whom I feel myself under very great obligations. The means employed by him were, in a few weeks, effectual to the perfect restoration of my sight.

From that time, at intervals, I was repeatedly threatened with the total loss of sight; but a prompt recurrence to the remedies prescribed by Mr. Ware, always succeeded in parrying the threatened evil; till Sunday, May 18th, 1823, when being at Stroud, preaching in aid of the Wesleyan Methodist Sunday School in that place, the cloud returned; and owing to certain engagements, which it would be of no importance to state, I was unable to have recourse to those means which in former cases had been successful, till the following Thursday evening, when I tried the usual remedies, and found them utterly ineffectual. The disease had acquired a degree of strength and obstinacy which bade defiance to them. After vainly attempting to cure myself, I thought it advisable to place myself once more under the care of Mr. Ware. I did so; and after five weeks' residence in London, returned to Bristol, convalescent. I could see to read even a newspaper without the aid of glasses. The first Sabbath after my return I imprudently ventured to preach twice, and to administer the Lord's Supper; and again to preach the following evening, in one of our large chapels. These three services undid all that had been done. I instantly had recourse to the remedies which had been successful, and received my sight: I preached again, and became blind.—Again I blistered, and saw; then preached and became blind. Thus I proceeded, alternately preaching and becoming blind; and blistering and receiving my sight; till I found myself reduced to this alternative: Either, for the present at least, to cease to

preach, or to become blind altogether. I chose the former in the latter end of July, 1823. But, having trifled so long, the disease had become so obstinate as to resist the efficacy of all former remedies.

At this time a highly esteemed medical friend in Bristol, deeply interested himself in my behalf, and put me under a very powerful alterative course, and also caused a seton to be made in my neck, which was kept open for eight months. In addition to this, leeches were frequently applied to my temples; and occasionally, blisters to my right temple; I also used the mercurial snuff, was electrified in the eyes twice a day, for about two months; and used two or three different lotions. Sometimes I could see, even well enough to read a few lines of clear and strong print; and then in the space of an hour, was not able to distinguish a blank from a printed page. Frequently, by the light of the noon day sun, I have not been able to distinguish the features of my own family within a distance of two feet. My feelings, at such times, though in general I succeeded in concealing them, were such as it is not in the power of language to describe.

In this state I visited my daughter, Mrs. Baldwin, at Stourport, when a young friend, who had been afflicted with Gutta Serena in one eye, called to see me. I expected to find her blind in that eye; but, instead of this, I found to my astonishment and joy that she was nearly restored; at least, so far, that she could see both to read and work without difficulty. I inquired by what means she had recovered her sight; and she informed me, as I understood her, that it was by the application of a large blister to the spine. I resolved that, on my return to Bristol, I would try it. I did so; and the effect was astonishing. I felt its operation on my eye in the course of the night. It produced a tremulous sensation: a sensation which I cannot better describe, than by calling it a prickling sensation; only without pain. But when I awoke, what were my



astonishment and delight, when, for the first time, I was able to discern the figures and colours upon the curtains, and carpet, and the paper of the room! I say the first time; for we had removed into that house during my affliction. And what were the joy and surprise of my family, when, after the devotions of the morning, I took a book and read eight or ten pages together, without glasses, and without difficulty! Of the feelings of that morning I have, and ever shall have, a most lively, and joyous, and grateful remembrance!

I repeated the blister, nine inches long and about three or four broad, upon the spine, from the shoulder downwards, once a week, for five or six weeks in succession, until the optic nerve acquired a steady tone, and ceased to be subject to those fluctuations which had characterised it in former times.—When I returned from London in July, 1823, so far restored as to be able to read the small print of a newspaper; such was the state of the nerve, that either mental or bodily exertion would soon produce comparative blindness. As soon as I suffered my mind to fix itself intensely on any subject, or proceeded to any thing like a regular chain of ratiocination, I found the cloud return; and was instantly under the necessity of traversing my thoughts, and of discontinuing all consecutive thinking. But now, and for many months past, neither mental nor bodily exertion injures me at all. I can pursue my studies and labours as well as I ever could, without inconvenience. I confess I am a wonder to myself and to many!

Before I conclude this paper, I beg leave to remark two things: First, among the various means employed, I am persuaded I have derived, all along, more benefit from blistering than from any thing else. This I did in the case of my left eye at Liverpool, which I entirely lost, I now believe, for want of perseverance in blistering: and this also have I done in the present case. I will not say that I derived no benefit from cupping, or leeching, or mercurial snuff, or electricity, or a seton, and

various other things included in the remedial process to which I have been subjected; but I do say, that I have always derived the most immediate and sensible benefit from blisters; and ultimately, under God, it was a blister nine inches long, and three or four inches broad, which restored me to that happy state of vision which I now possess.

Secondly: My own dulness of apprehension, or the treachery of my memory, or both, were the means employed, by an over-ruling Providence, to effect a perfect cure. I have stated above, that I received my information from a young friend at Stourport. So I thought. But on a late visit to that place, I sent for that friend to inquire from whom she received the advice to blister the spine: a remedy which, as far as I had been able to ascertain, had not been employed either by oculists or physicians, in Bristol or London; when, to my utter surprise, she told me that she had never had a blister on her spine; that she never had said that she had one there; and that it was quite impossible she could have said so; but that she had told me, she had a blister on the back part of her neck. The word back occasioned the mistake. Back and spine were associated in my mind; and hence the application of the blister to the spine; which probably was the only part where such an application would, in my case, have been successful. The Lord can, not only make the wickedness of men to praise him, but also over-rule their inattention or stupidity to the healing of their diseases. I owe my cure to blunder; or, to speak more correctly, to the special Providence of God, who appointed or permitted it, to confer upon me this great benefit; which, having freely received, I freely communicate; most earnestly praying, that it may be as successful in restoring sight to others, as it has been in restoring that inestimable blessing to me.

There are three considerations which ought to induce persons similarly afflicted to make the experiment. First, the success which has



already attended it in my case, and in the case of two others, at least. Secondly, the remedy is perfectly innocent: if it do no good, it will do no harm. Thirdly, A discharge from the back, occasioned by a piece of skin being rubbed off through long confinement to bed, restored a woman afflicted with Amaurosis, or Gutta Serena, to sight, in the Bristol Infirmary, in the year 1817; an interesting account of which was published in "The London Medical Repository for January, 1824," by J. C. PRITCHARD, M. D.: which case furnishes a strong presumption, that blistering will be of essential benefit. To which I might add, that several medical men, with whom I have conversed on the subject, agree in thinking that it is very likely in many cases to succeed.

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### ALKALIES AND NEUTRAL SALTS.

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THE general term *Alkali* comprehends under it substances possessed of very important chemical properties, and capable of producing very powerful effects on the animal economy. They have an acrid, urinous taste; are caustic, or dissolve animal matter; change the blue vegetable colours to green; serve as the means of combining oil and water; are capable of being fused and volatilized by a strong heat; have a great affinity for water; and combine with acids, forming neutral salts, in which the qualities of both the components are lost. The discoveries of Sir H. Davy have clearly established that the greater number of them are compound bodies, with metallic bases. They are affected by the air, and require to be preserved in well-stopped glass bottles.

Neutral salts have neither acid nor alkaline properties; but salts are formed by the combination of acids with alkalies, in which the properties of the one or the other predominate; and consequently, although these are secondary salts,

yet they cannot, in strict language, be denominated neutral salts. When the acid predominates, the salt is designated by the syllables *super* being added to the appellation of the neutral salt, formed with the same acid and alkali; but when the alkali is redundant, the syllable *sub* is added: thus, if to carbonate of potass, be added a redundancy of acid, it becomes a supercarbonate of potass; but if there be a deficiency of acid, the salt is a subcarbonate of potass. When the acid has the term *oxy* prefixed to its name, the same syllables are prefixed to that of the salt; thus, oxymuriate of potass, denotes a salt composed of the oxymuriatic acid and potass; terms, the impropriety of which I have already noticed. When an alkali is united with an acid, the salt formed is named from the acid: thus, the salt formed by sulphuric acid and soda is named sulphate of soda, and the soda is regarded as the base of the salt. Even when the acid is united with two bases, or is a triple salt, the compound is still named from the salt; as for instance, tartrate of potass and soda, which is a compound of tartaric acid, potass, and soda.

The neutral and secondary salts have very different degrees of solubility; but that of almost all of them is increased by an augmented temperature, while their solution is for the most part accompanied with a diminution of temperature. They may be obtained unaltered from solutions by evaporation: and, if the process be slowly conducted, they form in regular crystallized masses, which have more or less transparency according to the quantity of water which they retain in their composition. Exposure to air, heat, and moisture, variously affect the appearance of crystallized salts. When they lose their transparency, and are covered with a white crust, or fall to powder, on simple exposure to the air, such salts are said to be efflorescent; if, on the contrary, they attract moisture from the atmosphere and become fluid, they are named deliquescent; and permanent, when the air has no effect



on their crystals. The circumstance of a salt first melting in a moderate heat, then becoming covered with a white crust, and ultimately being converted into a dry opaque mass, is termed watery fusion; but when, instead of melting, it splits and the fragments fly off with a crackling noise, this effect is termed decrepitation.

The efflorescent and deliquescent salts should be preserved, and dispensed in well-stopped bottles; while those that are permanent will not suffer from being put up in paper.

The alkalies have been employed as poisons; in which case the practitioner ought to be able to distinguish them from other acrid or caustic poisons. The volatile alkali is readily known by its odour; but if any of the fixed alkalies have been taken, besides the characters already enumerated, and which merely demonstrate the fact that the poison has been an alkali, the simplest method of ascertaining which of the alkalies is the poison in question, is to evaporate the solution, or some of the filtered fluid contents of the stomach to dryness in a silver spoon or vessel; after which, by exposing the mass to the air, if the alkali be potass it will rapidly deliquesce, but it will remain dry if it be soda. Vinegar is the best antidote of the alkaline poisons, when given early enough after the poison has been swallowed.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

REPORT OF THE  
DINNER OF THE NEW COLLEGE.

(Concluded.)

(Dr. Lynch on his legs)—Gentlemen, Dr. Eady has done de honor to

drinka my helt. I'm very much obliged to you Gentamen. It do me good to seè so many of de doctors all round me—for de *water*—for de *venneral*—for de *worms*—for de *narvous*—and for de *stricture*.—"Quashee ma boo," gentamen is my motto. You know I coms from de West Indes, so does my broder dere, dat you examined to-day for his dipplomur. I not ashame Gentamen, I was once a nigger and I larn to cure de stricture widout bougees—wid notin more dan takin my medicin in de mowt. Dats more din Dr. Courtney or Van Buchel can do. (Here Dr. C. and Dr. V. jumped up—but by a courteous action of negro-succumbation from the Speaker, became appeased like Shakspeare's Lady Ann in the "*Sword*"-scene with Gloucester.) I beg parden Gentamen—no disparagement, I only meant to say dat I have *my own way* to cure de stricture—and surely dats what you bot have;—every man his own way I say—"Quashee ma boo" for ever—So here's "Dr. Taylor, and may de *Regulars* never get de *blind* side of him."—(Loud cheers.)

Dr. Taylor slowly and gravely rose—"It gives me infinite satisfaction to thus rise and to return Dr. Lynch and you all Gentlemen, and Madam. (*turning his good eye to Mrs. Johnson*) I believe you are well acquainted with my march in the profession, and it needs not me to dwell upon it. I hope and trust that when I present myself for examination before the New College, my services will be sufficient to admit me to the honour of membership. I have heard a great deal of your balms and your rackasiris and your Medical Establishments—but Gentlemen with *one box of pills*, I have done more than altogether." "Leake's Genuine Pills" have purged the pockets of thousands to swell out mine—there is not a ——— corner Gentlemen in London, that is not a register of my pills' capabilities. And what are they? Why I suppose I need not tell you—you all know that they are only *mercurial*, they stop the disease for a while, and then you know out it comes in



the nose, or the bones, or the skin, or throat. So back they come to me for more pills, and then *I do for them*. My friend Dr. Lynch wished that the *Regulars* might never get the blind side of me, I believe,—well no more shall they: for though I have but one eye Gentlemen, yet “that is a piercer” as Captain Wattle has it—I can see when to double them, and Dr. Blegborough and Dr. Clutterbuck opposite my house, with all their physical prescriptions can’t see with all their eyes put together as many gulls as I can with my *one*. Don’t I live in Bridge-street as well as they?—don’t I dress in black like them?—and am I not *Doctor Taylor*?—pooh! a fig for the whole of them.—I’ll give you now Gentlemen “*Dr. Price and prosperity to medical authors.*”

Dr. Price then rose, and spoke as follows:—“The handsome manner in which my friend and brother chip Dr. Taylor has drank my health, and the *appendix* which he added, calls, Gentlemen, for my warmest thanks.” It is true I am a medical author; I have written an account of the Princess Charlotte’s death, and have proved thereby that she died, Gentlemen, from *parturition*, or, in other words, from *child-birth*. It is there laid down, that, had she lived, Sir Richard Croft would have been rewarded; and also, that had her system never suffered a state of pregnancy, that muck-to-be-lamented Princess might have still been alive, (*hear hear.*) I offered this publication in MS., Gentlemen, to many publishers, but, so stupidly ignorant were they, that they refused the offer; but, Gentlemen, I have it now in *print*, and will lay it before your new College as my *thesis*, and I trust it will be sufficient to admit me as a member. Lest there may be any here who might mistake me for Dr. Price the humbug *regular*, I beg to say, that I keep a druggist’s shop in Cannon-street, in the city, not far from the London Stone, where I shall be very happy to supply any of you, Gentlemen, with arsenic and corrosive sublimate as cheap as any man. (*Hear, hear.*)

Dr. Courtenay now proposed, that as it was growing late, the evening should end with harmony, and called on Dr. Lamert, of Bristol, for a song, who, after sundry “*hums*” and “*haughs*,” and wipes off his bandanna, sung the following in memory, he said, of Dr. Solomon, who first set him the example of balm selling, observing that, though the medicines of Solomon were good, they could not come within a mile of his balm of Zura.

#### SOLOMON’S SONG.\*

A task which gratitude demands,  
In flowing numbers mine is,  
To celebrate the healing power  
Of Antimpetigines!

And those whose fate on sickness’ bed,  
Now drooping to recline is,  
Like me uprais’d, may bless thy name,  
Sweet Antimpetigines!

Yea, thousands too, whose future lot  
In fell Disease to pine is,  
When ask’d what wrought their cure?  
may cry,  
“ ’Twas Antimpetigines!”

O, precious draught! which ease restores,  
And puts to pain a finis;  
My fav’rite theme shall be thy praise,  
Blest Antimpetigines!

For as thy long-fam’d Gilead’s Balm  
By myriads deem’d divine is;  
The same repentean virtue dwells  
In Antimpetigines!

Thus each in its respective sphere,  
Specific, form’d to shine is;  
While from the hand which cull’d that  
Balm  
Springs Antimpetigines!

And while their fame extends as far,  
As from the pole the line is,  
Blest be the Balm of Gilead’s name,  
And Antimpetigines!

Roars of applause followed this song; and then the memory of Dr. Solomon was drank in solemn silence; but this silence was unluckily, and some say *maliciously*, interrupted by Dr. Jordan; for just as the last drops were sacredly entering the mouths of the grave company, Dr. J. gave a something which to this day re-

\* This is one of the infamous quack Solomon’s puffs to his blackguard compounds.



mains undecided as to appellation; some say it was a creak of the chair; others, who were nearer to the Doctor, declare it was *no such thing*; but certain it is that the company, particularly Dr. Lamert, received the interruption as an insult of the grossest nature to the memory of Dr. Solomon and to the company. Words became high, and parties formed. Dr. Jordan lost his temper, and Dr. Lamert vociferated—"S' help me Cot you lie," roared Dr. J.! Dr. L. could not brook that, now, as he was a physician, and also, as he could turn up a bit, so in Pierce Egan's phrase he *peeled*—to it they went, Dr. Jordan backed by the President and Dr. Lynch; and Dr. Lamert by Samuel and James. The blows upon the *corpora* of the Medical Pugilists soon spread their contagious effects to the company, and a general fight ensued which lasted half an hour; but was at length settled by the interference of Mr. Abrahams and the "Charleys." Dr. Taylor's other eye was sewed up, and he was led off at an early period of the fight. Dr. Jordan's features could scarcely be observed, until his face was washed—Dr. Lamert, his antagonist being well acquainted with Whitechapel science. Dr. Broghum escaped unhurt, having hid himself under the table with Mrs. Johnson. Sundry eyes were blacked and coats torn, but the principal damage was the glass; this touched the Gentlemen in the *sorest* place; for Mr. Abrahams insisted on being paid, or else they should all march to the watch-house: however he and the Charleys were at length paid, the company were turned out and paternally kept from further riot by the guardians of the night.

We have been informed that Mrs. Johnson and Dr. Eady got into an unpleasant dilemma going home.

(A list of the Manchester quacks next week.)



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*New Hospital.*—It is in contemplation, we hear, to erect an hospital for sick seamen, on a scale of superiority, and suitable to the metropolis of Great Britain. It is a most desirable object, for the floating hospitals are a disgrace to good sense.

*New Remedy.*—Dr. Venables has introduced a chemical combination of iodine and mercury as a remedy in organic disease. Dr. V. thinks it of too serious a nature to be used indiscriminately;—we think so too. He recommends it in scrofula; we, however, much doubt its effects.

*Treatment of Capital Criminals after Conviction.*—We have been requested to comment upon the improper practice of allowing no bed to criminals cast for death. We really think it is only because the subject has been overlooked by the surgeons of prisons, and others, that the practice is suffered to exist. Why inflict a lingering torture—why give the wretched sufferer, who is to pay the *greatest* penalty for his crimes, for weeks, only hard boards to lie upon, and cruelly thus keep him awake to his approaching fate? Humanity should abolish this, and give the unhappy criminal as much comfort as possible. Death is not inflicted *now* as a torture from *revenge*, but as an *example*—and *death is enough*. Another argument against this treatment is, that it may produce a fatal disease, and thus defeat the object of justice. Our comments have abolished the practice of rubbing executed culprits' hands to wrens, and we trust they may be as successful here. Our present sheriffs are humane and excellent men, and they can do a great deal.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

X. X. X. 1.—Take the acidulated decoction of bark, a spoonful in the morning.

HAS Mr. S——, of Southampton, received our letter?

G. M.—Pour a jug of cold water on the head every morning, and dry it gently. Do not brush the hair, and only comb it lightly.

Jos. H. of W. ROAD.—Keep the feet in warm water for half an hour each night, and take a little salts twice a week.

T. LATIMER had better wait for our promised publication upon his complaint. Let him until then take five grains of rhubarb, at twelve o'clock daily. The publication will be out soon after Christmas.

CYRUS P. It is not consumption. Take in the middle of the day, one drachm of the tincture of rhubarb, and write again in a fortnight.

\*\*\* Who can the physician be, who treated a simple gonorrhoea with colchium and mercury, and no injection, for seven months?

J. R. W. Z.—Whenever you feel a pain in the breast blister immediately. Keep your bowels always regular, take the juice of apples, grapes, oranges, &c. and half a pint of the decoction of Iceland moss daily, for some time to come, and above all guard against cold. A violent cold would bring on consumption. Do not cover too heavily but equally.

W. P. L. has been rightly treated by the surgeon. A little sulphur and treacle at night occasionally, and burgoo for breakfast, will serve him. He is doing as well as can be expected, and likely to be permanently cured.

EMMELINE R. A table-spoonful of the acidulated decoction of bark every morning, attending to the bowels by small doses of rhubarb and magnesia, will cure her. Write in a month, if not well.

A SUBSCRIBER will find our opinions on ringworm in a former number.

S. LILLY's came too late for last number. If he wear an effectual truss there is no injury to be feared from his present occupation.

A. Z.'s lines are not sufficiently well moulded.

J. S. R. O. has been half ruined by that abominable pretender Webster, of Manchester. Tell the fellow it is *not venereal*. Rest, foment the parts with warm water every night, and take a little laxative medicine every second day. Write in a month.

A SUBSCRIBER. Try the water both night and morning, and write in a month.

A. Z. Take no tea.—Try one drachm of tincture of senna, one of tincture of rhubarb, and one of tincture of ginger, every day at twelve o'clock. Write in a month.

G., Winchester-street. The young lady who complains of pain in the head, with giddiness, will find relief by taking a table-spoonfull of the acidulated decoction of bark every morning, and a dose of the tonic and digestive wine daily at eleven o'clock. Let her take a dose of salts before the course.

A READER OF THE M. A. will find benefit from the same plan as that recommended for G. of Winchester-street.

ANNE P. Take every day at twelve o'clock eight grains of rhubarb.

Our answer directed to Mr. Flitch, 29, Gower-place, Euston-square, has been returned marked "not known."

G. B. R. and W. M.—too late.



THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
 AND  
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FROM DR. HIBBARD'S WORK ON APPARITIONS.

(To Illustrate an Article in last Number.)

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## CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

(Continued from page 352.)

THE lichen Islandicus is a favourite remedy with the continental physicians, and is daily employed by them in the routine of phthisical cases. The most usual form of exhibiting it is in that of a decoction with milk; or, when this disagrees with the stomach, in water. It is not used, however, indiscriminately in every species of phthisis, nor in every stage of that disorder. It is chiefly recommended in those instances where the cough is attended with purulent expectoration; in cases preceded by or accompanied with hæmoptysis in incipient phthisis, where from relaxation there is an increased discharge of mucus from the bronchia; in the sequelæ of measles attended with a quick small pulse, pain of the breast, emaciation, violent cough, and purulent expectoration. Of late, the lichen Islandicus has become a fashionable remedy likewise among our own physicians, and I have myself prescribed it in several cases of phthisis, but without any evident beneficial effect. It seems indeed better calculated for an article of diet than a medicine.

Such are the means which should be had recourse to during the first stage of phthisis. In the second and latter stages we are to counteract, if possible, the effects of the absorbed matter; to mitigate the most distressing symptoms, such as the cough, diarrhœa, and colliquative sweats; and, lastly, to put the body into as good general health as possible, by air, moderate exercise, and a proper course of mild nutritive food.

No antidote against the poison which especially operates here having been found out, and it appearing that too great a degree of inflammation may have a share in preventing the ulcer from healing, and in urging on its fatal consequences; it has been proposed to employ means for moderating the inflammation in this stage of the disease, as well as in the first. With this view, small bleedings, frequently repeated, have

been advised by some physicians. Drawing off blood, when this disease has arrived at the stage of ulceration is, in my opinion, exhausting the vital stream very unnecessarily; it is adding to debility, and must therefore be very improper. The same reasoning will hold good against a use of purgatives.

When we want to lessen the action of the heart and arteries, from the pulse being very frequent, and the patient much troubled with flushing heats, in consequence of hectic fever, we should employ the digitalis, instead of having recourse to such debilitating means; this having been found capable, as has already been observed, of reducing the pulse from 120, and even 140 strokes in a minute, to something below the natural standard.

Dr. Bourne, of Oxford, has published some cases of pulmonary consumption, in which he made trial of the uva ursi; and the dose in which he mostly exhibited it to his patients, was from eight to fifteen grains of the powder three times a day. He is of opinion that it has a very sensible effect in diminishing the hectic fever, and in abating the increased frequency of the pulse dependent thereon. It appears that he was first induced to make use of it in phthisis from having remarked its good effects in a disease of the urinary organs, attended with a discharge of muco-purulent matter along with the urine, and accompanied with all the usual characteristics of hectic fever. The uva ursi is possessed of considerable astringency, and to the taste is slightly bitter; but neither its sensible properties nor its immediate effects on the system point it out as a medicine of great activity, particularly in phthisis pulmonalis.

In the second stage of the disease, the employment of emetics must be duly persisted in, every second or third morning, in the manner advised during the first stage.

As detergents, different balsamics have been much used in the ulcerated stage of the disease. Balsam of copaiba, in the dose of from twenty to thirty drops twice or thrice a



day, may be tried. Myrrh is, however, the medicine which is employed with the greatest success in those cases of hectic fever which are unattended by any great degree of heat or thirst, and which do not show manifest signs of inflammation. The preparation used by the late Dr. Moses Griffiths seems to be preferable to all others. If at any time it should be thought too heating, the spirituous water may be omitted, as the solution may be made without it; but it is a doubt if it will agree so well with the stomach of patients in general.

The myrrh may gradually be increased to seventeen or eighteen grains for a dose, the potassæ subcarbonas to ten, and the ferri sulphas to four. But it is always best to begin with small doses, and as the symptoms abate, to give two draughts a day, containing eighteen or twenty grains of myrrh, twelve of the potassæ, and five or six of the ferri sulphus, which is the largest dose that should be taken. This medicine, although a little nauseous at first, is nevertheless seldom rejected by the stomach, or excites any kind of disturbance in the habit afterwards.

Where hectic heats and flushings prevail in a high degree, and the pulse is very frequent, it probably might be most advisable to omit the last article entirely.

Dr. Beddoes has expressed a wish that we could obtain a single auxiliary to foxglove, as that then he should expect that not one case in five would terminate as ninety-nine in an hundred have hitherto done. I would propose this myrrh mixture of Dr. Griffiths, and vomiting twice a week, with the cupri sulphas, as mentioned in the preceding pages. A proper dose of the tincture of digitalis may be added to each of the myrrh draughts, and so be given together. This plan of proceeding I have adopted in several cases, and with much seeming advantage.

Should the mixture not sit easy on the stomach, or be objected to on account of its nauseous taste, we may then form the myrrh and other ingredients into pills, and give the

digitalis in about half an ounce of the infusion of quassia or cascarilla.

The cinchona bark has been employed in the ulcerated stage of phthisis; but if ever it proves serviceable, it can only be when the morning remissions of the fever are considerable, and the noon exacerbations well marked. In all other cases it will be likely to prove prejudicial.

The reason why pulmonary ulcers are prevented from healing, is their being constantly exposed to the air. It is remarkable that matter produced by suppuration may be concealed in the body many weeks, or even months, without producing hectic fever; but as soon as the wound is open, so as to admit air to the surface of the ulcer, a hectic fever very quickly supervenes.

The suckling of children longer than is consistent with the mother's ability, is sometimes a cause of pulmonary consumption; but more particularly among the lower class of females who are of a tender and delicate constitution. In such cases the cinchona bark given early in moderate doses, and merely as a tonic, is often attended with the best effect.

Where a disposition to consumption arises in consequence of any enfeebling evacuation, such as a considerable abscess, fluor albus, or the like, without any inflammation of the lungs having yet taken place, cinchona will likewise prove serviceable, and may be given as advised below. After inflammation has come on, or ulceration has commenced, it would not fail to prove injurious, by increasing the cough and the tightness and oppression of breathing.

To counteract the effects of absorption, vegetable acids, such as oranges and other fruits yielding an acid but not acrid juice, have been much recommended. When they do not affect the bowels they may be given freely with the powder of sarsaparilla. Fresh subacid fruits, although supposed to be usually laxative, are often useful in the diarrhoea of hectic, by their antiseptic quality.



When the diarrhœa of hectic is accompanied with pain, and resists the action of astringents and anodynes, small doses of the submuriate of mercury have been found useful.

In this stage of the disease, as well as in the incipient, we are to obviate inflammation, and divert the matter, if possible, by means of blisters, issues, or a seton.

To palliate the cough, which is very apt to prove troublesome, and to assist the expectoration, we may have recourse to demulcents, as before advised. If the patient's rest is much disturbed by night, we may employ opiates; and although they are supposed to increase the phlogistic diathesis, and in some degree to check the expectoration, still they amply compensate for these by the ease and sleep they procure.

In the tubercular or true scrofulous phthisis, Dr. Crichton, of Petersburg, has seen very great benefit derived from a use of tar fumigation. He found that it heals the ulcers and subdues the inflammation of the tubercles; but where there are large abscesses, or vomicæ, in sanguineous habits, and in cases of suppuration succeeding active hæmorrhages, accompanied with fever, in young persons, little or no advantage was derived from the remedy. It is also of importance to know that the use of the fumigations should not be continued after the cough, expectoration, and hectic symptoms are greatly subdued, and the patients should not again expose themselves hastily to a cold air.

The simplest and best manner of filling a room with the vapour from tar, is to place the vessel containing it over a spirit lamp, taking care that it boils slowly and does not burn. The vessel should be well cleansed every day, and the fumigation be repeated every three hours. Some of the subcarbonate of potass (in the proportion of one ounce to the pound of tar) is to be added, in order that the pyroligneous acid, as Dr. C. terms it, (perhaps more properly the empyreumatic acetic acid), may be destroyed.

With respect to the treatment of

phthisis by bituminous vapour, the subject is not altogether new, as similar good effects have resulted from the vapour of melted resin; a case of which nature, that occurred in the year 1771, is reported in the 53d No. of the London Medical Repository, page 400.

In slow hectic fever, attended with frequent flushings and profuse night-sweats, and with much coughing and fetid purulent expectoration, Seltzer water will often in a high degree check the violence of perspiration, diminish the discharge from the lungs, and correct its fœtor; and under the operation of this medicine the patient will for a time be able to gain quieter nights, and a better appetite. Seltzer water mixes well with milk, and will not soon coagulate it; which mixture has been strongly recommended in cases of hectic fever with expectoration. In very irritable habits it may be highly necessary to dilute the water in this way, as in its simple state it might prove too powerful.

When the sweats are profuse, the infusum rosæ, with a sufficient quantity of diluted sulphuric acid, will be a good medicine to check them, and may answer instead of Seltzer water. The nitrate of silver, in doses of an eighth or fourth of a grain twice or thrice a-day, has been administered with a happy effect in some cases of profuse sweating, accompanied by purulent expectoration. The superacetate of lead, when joined with opium, also restrains, in a very powerful manner, the morning perspiration, which wastes and harasses the patient.

When a diarrhœa arises, it is to be stopped by astringents, combined with opium, as recommended under that head. For common drink, the patient may take the *mistura cornu usti*, and arrow-root. By the consent between the intestines and skin, twenty grains of Armenian bole given on going to bed to hectic patients, will frequently check their tendency to sweat as well as to purge, and the more certainly if joined with one grain of opium.

Where a spitting of blood arises in persons labouring under phthisis



the internal use of the superacetate of lead conjoined with opium, together with the other means advised under the head of Hæmoptysis, must be resorted to.

The aphthous sores in the mouth which frequently arise in the latter stage of phthisis, are to be cleansed by washing or rinsing the fauces often with an infusion of cinchona, having a little borax dissolved in it.

The strength is to be supported by food of a light nature, but which is at the same time highly nutritive; and the different exercises, such as sailing and riding in a carriage or on horseback, but more particularly the latter, should be taken daily in fine weather. When the inflammatory diathesis is subdued, chalybeates, combined with myrrh and the subcarbonate of potass, may be given with much advantage. The liquor calcis will be a good menstruum for dissolving the myrrh.

Should we be so fortunate as to subdue the disease by the means which have been pointed out, it will be indispensably necessary for the patient to persevere in employing the regimen recommended in the treatment of this complaint, for a considerable length of time after every symptom has disappeared; and he should return to his former manner of living with the utmost caution.

Some practitioners, from considering pulmonary consumption as entirely of a scrofulous nature, disapprove highly of the antiphlogistic plan, by bleeding and a spare diet even in the first stage of the disease. Instead of these, they recommend a nutritious diet, consisting of shellfish and animal food; the use of conium and sarsa in powder as medicines; warmth in the dress, by wearing flannel next the skin, and at the same time heating the patient's room to the West India point, when he cannot remove to a warmer climate; the application of blisters, and frequent smart riding on horse-back by way of exercise.

With regard to the remedies usually employed in the treatment of

phthisis, Dr. Ferriar has observed that the digitalis, with the ferri sulphas, myrrh, cinchona, and other tonics, may be most proper in those cases of consumption which arise from scrofula; while the digitalis with opium, mucilaginous medicines, and diuretics, may be opposed to the florid consumption.

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## BEAUTIFUL DESCRIPTION OF THE LUNGS.

*By Mr. Charles Bell.*

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THE lungs are the soft compressible bodies which fill the two lateral cavities of the chest; and their use is to convey the atmospheric air into contact with the circulating blood. They consist principally of a cellular texture, and air tubes communicating with the atmosphere through the trachea. The degree of fleshy consistence and solidity which they have, is owing to the many vessels which carry blood through them, and the firm texture of membrane necessary to support them. Their function is respiration.

Respiration carries away the superfluous carbon of the blood, bestows heat, and stimulates the system, endows us with the power of speech, and affords us the sense of smelling, or greatly contributes to the perfection of the sense.

In form the lungs correspond to the cavity which contains them. When taken from their place and extended, they are wide below, forming a base, and rise conically upward: they are concave where they lie on the arch of the diaphragm, obtuse above, convex forward, and more slightly so on the sides; their borders behind are obtuse, while they are pointed, and thin before. The lungs have a deep sulcus behind, left for the spine, and within the projecting lobes there is a place of lodgment for the pericardium and heart.

Attending to this general form, we see why the lungs are spoken of as double, for unless by the connection of their common wind-pipe,



there are two great lateral portions, each of which belongs to a distinct cavity. And when we look to the lungs of the two sides, we discover that they are not perfectly alike. On each lung a fissure begins a little above the apex, and runs obliquely forward and downward to the base. This fissure on the left side divides the lungs into two lobes. On the right side there is a lesser fissure, which consequently forms a lesser intermediate triangular lobe.

#### OF THE TRACHEA AND BRONCHIÆ.

The trachea is that extent of the wind-pipe which is betwixt the larynx (already described) and the division of this tube where it is about to enter the lungs. It is seated on the fore part of the neck and anterior to the œsophagus or gullet. It is covered by the thyroid gland and the flat muscles going from the sternum to the os hyoides and thyroid cartilage, and all around, it has a very loose and elastic cellular membrane.

The trachea is not a perfect cylinder, it is flat on the back part; it is rigid to admit of the easy passage of the air through it; and this rigidity is derived from the cartilaginous hoops of which it is principally formed. These are not perfectly regular: above they are most so, and are broader, and have weaker cornua the nearer the bifurcation: they are united by an intermediate ligamentous substance, which appears to be muscular; and these cornua have transverse fibres uniting them, which also appear to be muscular.

The membrane lining the trachea, and continued from the larynx into the cells of the lungs, is, as we have already said, a mucous membrane; it is soft, elastic, and vascular; and many pores of foramina open upon it, especially about the larynx and epiglottis. These are the openings of the ducts of the glands, and on the outside of the membrane round and oval glands are visible. The moisture which bedews the trachea is a

limpid bland mucus which subsides in water, unless air bubbles be in it. The thinner part of this secretion is carried off by the air which passes through the trachea, and the thick matter is expectorated.

This secretion, which in the healthy state is of the consistence of thin jelly, transparent, and of a bluish colour, becomes, from inflammation of the catarrhal kind, thinner and more transparent, and is copiously expectorated. In more chronic inflammation, the matter becomes thick, opaque, and of the colour of straw. And in a still later stage it may come purulent, without implying lesion of surface. The firmer nodules of viscid secretion which are brought up, are probably from the sacculi laryngis.

From its exposed situation, its sensibility and vascularity, the membrane of the trachea is very subject to disease. I have now before me examples of general inflammation, of inflammatory crust, of suppuration and deep ulcer in the inside of the trachea. Often lesser degrees of inflammation change the nature of the bland secretion, making it more saline, acrid, and stimulating. Sometimes the inflammatory action will mix a portion of coagulable lymph with the mucus secreted, and which, by this addition, will take a tubular form, as in the croup. But let it be remembered, that coagulable lymph in the form of tubes or vessels, may be coughed up from the lungs; a consequence of blood poured into the bronchia without the presence of inflammation.

On entering the thorax, the trachea inclines backward, and passes into the posterior mediastinum, and behind the arch of the aorta, and before the œsophagus; opposite to the third vertebra of the back it divides into two branches, passing to the right and left; these and their subdivisions are the bronchiæ.

When we follow one of these tubes, we find it entering the substance of the lungs, accompanied by blood-vessels, branches of the pulmonary artery, with their corresponding veins; and lesser arterial branches enter here, which are de-



rived from the aorta, and are called the bronchial arteries.

The bronchiæ divide and subdivide in regular order, branching like a tree through all the substance of the lungs, until their tender extremities terminate in the air-cells; for the cartilaginous rings of the bronchiæ, which near the trachea resemble those of the trunk, become weaker and further removed from each other, until the extremities seem only to be membranous tubes.

#### BRONCHIAL CELLS.

The bronchial cells, into which the air is admitted in respiration, have been represented as very regular sphericles attached to the branches of the bronchiæ, and having no communication with each other. I rather believe that they are not regular in figure nor in size, and that they freely communicate. Perhaps I am mistaken in supposing I see that the cells not only communicate, but that the air is drawn through them, and made to circulate among them in a series. Taking this as a question to be judged of more by the probable effect of the structure, than by what we can demonstrate, would not the air, in the supposition of its being drawn through the communications from cell to cell, in connection with the extremity of a branch of the bronchia, be more effectually brought into contact with the blood, than if the extreme branch of the wind-pipe terminated in a cell which had one opening only, and which cell contracted during expiration, only in a slight degree?

On these cells the ultimate branches of the pulmonary arteries and veins ramify and inosculate, and the thin membrane of the cell and the coats of these minute vessels do not prevent the influence of the air upon the circulating blood. My reader must well distinguish betwixt this regular cellular structure, for the admission of air which is drawn through the trachea and bronchiæ, and that cellular texture of the lungs which is common to them and every part of the body; a tissue, which supports the air-cells,

the bronchiæ, and the three several kinds of blood-vessels, and the lymphatics, which collectively constitute the substance of the lungs. This common cellular substance supports the air-cells, and unites the lobules, and conveys the vessels to their destination.

Sometimes the air escapes from the proper bronchial cells into this cellular texture; then there is emphysema of the lungs; then the lungs are distended with air,—but that air does not minister to the oxygenation of the blood, on the contrary, the patient dies suffocated. And still more frequently it happens that the lungs being exerted as by difficult respiration, a watery effusion takes place in the common cellular texture of the lungs, which effectually compresses the proper air-cells, and after much oppression suffocates.

#### GASTRODYNIA; OR, PAIN IN THE STOMACH.

THIS disease often occurs in those who are afflicted with dyspeptic symptoms, such as heartburn, eructations, flatulency, &c.

In addition to what has been mentioned of these complaints under the head of dyspepsia, it may be proper to notice that cardialgia and gastrodynia originate from an inactivity of the stomach, whence the aliment, instead of being concocted by digestion, and converted into chyle, runs into fermentation, producing acetous acid. Sometimes the gastric juice itself becomes so acid as to give pain to the upper orifice of the stomach; and it is probable that violent cardialgia is more frequently owing to an increase of the acidity of the gastric juice than to the acetous acid produced by fermenting aliment.

The heartburn, as arising from indigestion, is often an afflicting and pertinacious complaint, being not unfrequently attended with an emaciation of the body from the want of sufficient chyle. To obtain a temporary relief, we must have



recourse to antacids, calcareous earths, alkaline salts, the aerated alkaline water, or Seltzer water. To check the fermentation in severe cases, we may employ the sulphuric acid in a diluted state, together with a due quantity of brandy or other spirit lowered with water: but for the purpose of procuring a permanent relief, we should endeavour to strengthen the digestion by the stimulus of a blister externally, and by the use of aromatics, bitters, and chalybeates internally, as advised under the head of Dyspepsia.

The diet should consist of such things as do not easily ferment, such as animal food, shell-fish, and biscuit. It appears by the experiments of Pringle and M'Bride, that the saliva swallowed along with our food greatly prevents its fermentation; and therefore dyspeptic persons should be particularly careful in well masticating what they eat.

Flatulency is to be obviated by carminatives and a due observance of the means just mentioned. Perhaps a waistcoat made so tight as slightly to compress the stomach and bowels, might prove serviceable in assisting the digestive process.

In gastrodynia attended with acute pain in the organ, we must have recourse to antispasmodics, particularly æther and opium in combination with stomachic bitters and chalybeates.

The oxyd of bismuth is a remedy which is reported to have been employed with considerable advantage in gastrodynia — (see Dyspepsia.) The proper dose is from three to ten grains, with about twenty-five grains of gum tragacanth, repeated three times a day. We had better however begin with a dose of three grains, and so increase it gradually. I have myself used it with advantage in some cases.

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### SULPHAT OF MAGNESIA; or, *Epsom Salts.*

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THIS salt is found native in a pure state; but it is more commonly combined with gypsum and other salts,

and in solution in sea water, and several mineral springs. It was first artificially obtained in England in 1675, from the evaporation of the water of the Epsom spring: whence it was named Epsom salt: and in 1700 it was made in considerable quantity from two springs at Shooter's-hill in Kent; but the discovery of it in bittern, or the residual brine after the crystalization of sea-salt, soon opened a more copious source from which it might be obtained at all times; and for many years past, all the sulphate of magnesia used in this country has been manufactured from bittern. This substance consists chiefly of muriate of magnesia, muriate of lime, some common salt, and a small portion of some sulphate of lime; and therefore it is probable, that the sulphate of magnesia is obtained by decomposing the muriate by means of sulphate of iron, or sulphuric acid in some form, although some affirm that the bittern is only boiled down to a high point of concentration; when the sulphate of magnesia forms, and is purified by a second solution and crystalization. The sulphate found in the shops generally contains some muriate of magnesia, which renders it deliquescent; and consequently, it requires to be preserved in close covered jars. It is often adulterated with glauber salt, which is made to resemble Epsom salt, by stirring it briskly, when it is about to crystalize. It may be detected, by precipitating the magnesia by pure ammonia, aiding by heat; filtering, and evaporating the filtered fluid to dryness, by a heat sufficient to volatilize the sulphate of ammonia: if it contain glauber salt, the soda will remain fixed. Or it may be detected by no precipitation ensuing, on adding carbonate of potass to the solution. Muriate of lime is detected by the oxalic acid.

Sulphate of magnesia is inodorous, and has a very bitter nauseous saline taste. It is usually in small needle-like crystals, but the form of its regular crystal is a quadrangular prism, acuminate by four planes. When pure it effloresces; and is soluble in its own weight of water at



60°, increasing the volume of the fluid rather more than 4-tenths, or a solution of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of sulphate of magnesia in  $\frac{1}{2}$  of water, measures eleven fluid drachms and a quarter. Heat expels its water of crystalization; and the mass is melted, but not decomposed; it loses merely its water of crystalization, and a minute portion of its acid. According to Bergman, 100 parts consist of 29.35 of sulphuric acid, 17 of magnesia, and 53.65 of water of crystalization. Its specific gravity is 1.66. It is decomposed by the alkalies, and their carbonates, lime-water, the muriates of ammonia, of barytes and lime, nitrate of silver, and acetate and superacetate of lead, which are therefore incompatible with it in prescriptions.

This salt is purgative and diuretic. It operates readily without griping; and notwithstanding its nauseous taste, is generally retained by the stomach when almost all other things are rejected, especially when it is administered in small repeated doses largely diluted, or united with acidulated infusion of roses. In these forms it is a useful purgative in hypochondriasis, colica pictonum, ileus, puerperal fever, and in all acute diseases. It is also used as an adjunct to stimulating clysters. By moderate exercise in the open air while taking this salt, the purgative effect is diminished, and its diuretic property increased. The dose is from  $\frac{3}{4}$  ss to  $\frac{3}{4}$  ij dissolved in water, gruel, or any other vehicle; and taken either at once, or in divided doses frequently repeated.

### POISONOUS PICKLES.

VEGETABLE substances, preserved in the state called pickles, by means of the anti-septic power of vinegar, whose sale frequently depends greatly upon a fine lively green colour; and the consumption of which by sea-faring people in particular is prodigious, are sometimes intentionally coloured by means of copper. Gerkins, French beans, samphires,

the green pods of capsicum, and many other pickled vegetable substances, oftener than is perhaps expected, are met with, impregnated with this metal. Numerous fatal consequences are known to have ensued from the use of these stimulants of the palate, to which the fresh and pleasing hue has been imparted according to the deadly formulæ laid down in some modern cookery books; such as boiling the pickles with half-pence, or suffering them to stand for a considerable period in brazen vessels.

Dr. Percival [Medical Transactions, vol. iv. p. 80.] has given an account of “a young lady who amused herself, while her hair was dressing, with eating samphire pickles impregnated with copper. She soon complained of pain in the stomach; and in five days, vomiting commenced, which was incessant for two days. After this, her stomach became prodigiously distended; and in nine days after eating the pickle, death relieved her from her suffering.”

Among many recipes which modern authors of cookery books have given for imparting a green colour to pickles, the following are particularly deserving of censure; and it is to be hoped that they will be suppressed in future editions of the works.

“To Pickle Gerkins.—Boil the vinegar in a bell-metal or copper pot; pour it boiling hot on your cucumbers.”

“To make greening.—Take a bit of verdigris, the bigness of a hazle-nut, finely powdered; half-a-pint of distilled vinegar and a bit of alum powder, with a little bay salt. Put all in a bottle, shake it, and let it stand till clear. Put a small teaspoon-full into codlings, or whatever you wish to green.”

Mr. E. Raffeld directs, “to render pickles green, boil them with half-pence, or allow them to stand for twenty-four hours in copper or brass pans.”

To detect the presence of copper, it is only necessary to mince the pickles, and to pour liquid ammonia, diluted with an equal bulk of water,



over them in a stopped phial: if the pickles contain the minutest quantity of copper, the ammonia assumes a blue colour.

### POISONOUS CATSUP.

THIS article is very often subjected to one of the most reprehensible modes of adulteration ever devised. Quantities are daily to be met with, which on a chemical examination, are found to abound with copper. Indeed, this condiment is often nothing else than the residue left behind after the process employed for obtaining distilled vinegar, subsequently diluted with a decoction of the outer green husk of the walnut, and seasoned with allspice, Cayenne pepper, pimento, garlick, and common salt.

The quantity of copper which we have more than once detected in this sauce, used for seasoning, and which, on account of its cheapness, is much resorted to by people in the lower walks of life, has exceeded the proportion of lead to be met with in other articles employed in domestic economy.

The following account of Mr. Lewis, (*Literary Chronicle*, No. 24, p. 379,) on this subject will be sufficient to cause the public to be on their guard.

“Being in the habit of frequently purchasing large quantities of pickles and other culinary sauces, for the use of my establishment, and also for foreign trade, it fell lately to my lot to purchase from a manufacturer of those commodities a quantity of walnut catsup, apparently of an excellent quality; but, to my great surprise, I had reason to believe that the article might be contaminated with some deleterious substance, from circumstances which happened in my business as a tavern keeper, but which are unnecessary to be detailed here; and it was this that induced me to make inquiry concerning the compounding of the suspected articles.

“The catsup being prepared by boiling in a copper, as is usually prac-

tised, the outer green shell of walnuts, after having been suffered to turn black by exposure to air, in combination with common salt, with a portion of pimento and pepper dust, in common vinegar strengthened with some vinegar extract, left behind as residue in the still of vinegar manufacturers; I therefore suspected that the catsup might be impregnated with some copper. To convince myself of this opinion, I boiled down to dryness a quart of it in a stone pipkin, which yielded to me a dark brown mass. I put this mass into a crucible, and kept it on a coal fire, red hot, till it became reduced to a porous black charcoal; on urging the heat with a pair of bellows, and stirring the mass in the crucible with the stem of a tobacco-pipe, it became, after two hours' exposure to an intense heat, converted into a greyish-white ash; but no metal could be discriminated amongst it. I now poured upon it some aquafortis, which dissolved nearly the whole of it, with an effervescence; and produced after having been suffered to stand to let the insoluble portion subside, a bright grass-green solution, of a strong metallic taste; after immersing into this solution the blade of a knife, it became instantly covered with a bright coat of copper.

“The walnut catsup was therefore evidently strongly impregnated with copper. On informing the manufacturer of this fact, he assured me, that the same method of preparing the liquor was generally pursued, and that he had manufactured the article in a like manner for upwards of twenty years.

“Such is the statement I wish to communicate; and if you will allow it a place in your *Literary Chronicle* it may perhaps tend to put the unwary on their guard against the practice of preparing this sauce by boiling it in a copper, which certainly may contaminate the liquor, and render it poisonous.”

### *To prevent Chilblains.*

Wear soft leather gloves, and lamb's-wool stockings in the approaching frosty weather.



## TO DETECT ADULTERATION IN BREAD.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE following simple experiment to ascertain whether bread be made of proper materials is within the reach of every one:—

Heat a knife, and plunge it in the loaf. If the blade, when drawn out, appear bright, and not encrusted with a white chalky substance, it is a proof that it is free from some of the pernicious ingredients generally used by bakers in the adulteration of bread.

## ADVICE ON LADYS' FURS AND MUFFS.

CAN any body tell us the use of these great massy furs at the bottom of the ladies' pelisses? Would it not be better applied to the chest and neck? The muffs too!—Nothing in ladies' dresses is so pregnant with danger as this absurd appendage. It first engenders an unequal heat to the abdomen—a part which, when affected by cold, is most dangerous; and then, as the movements of their arms may guide, off it is carried, and leaves that place to undergo a reverse proportion of cold! Ladies, if you regard your health, cover your necks, wear flannel petticoats, and cashier furs and muffs.

## CLEANING THE TEETH.

WE are requested by one of our readers to say whether the teeth should be cleaned daily with tooth powder; to which we answer, that provided the powder be simple,—such as we prescribed in our last Number, and one of our back Numbers—it *should be used daily*. It is all stuff to talk about injuring the enamel by simply cleaning the teeth. Use a moderately stiff brush, and be careful not to jerk and rub as if you were curry-combing a horse, and then you will do the best for your teeth.

## OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Hot Wooden Trenchers, or Bottles of Hot Water, applied to the Abdomen to cure Colic.*

This remedy, as a stimulus, is a good auxiliary; but a brisk cathartic of jalap and ginger would much sooner relieve.

*A Poultice of Chick-weed to a Fresh Wound.*

Any of those *herb* poultices are not only useless, but injurious to fresh wounds. The minute particles of them get into the wounds and produce suppuration; whereas, had the parts been washed or wiped, closely united, and gently bound up, nature would complete a cure in a very short time, without further trouble.

## USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

*A good Night Draught for Rheumatism.*

Take of tincture of guaiacum, one drachm,  
Infusion of senna, one ounce.  
Mix.

*A good Medicine for Pregnant Women.*

Take of cinnamon water, an ounce,  
Tincture of rhubarb, two drachms,  
Spirits of lavender, (compound)  
half a drachm,  
Syrup of saffron, one drachm.

This to be taken occasionally in the middle of the day.

*Memorandum to those growing Blind.*

Blister the back about twelve inches along the spine, and about four inches broad.





## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### D—, THE OLD GRAVEL LANE QUACK.

[To the Editor of the Medical  
Adviser.

SIR,

KNOWING the persevering character of your valuable publication in exposing the quack doctors, &c. that constantly invade the stream of medical science; being a general reader of your valuable work, which by the by is no wonder, considering my love for any thing original, and enjoying your spirited "shews up," "shews out," "shews off," and "shews down," of the Kent Road Sawney, Eady, &c. &c. &c. and the host of the "gullers of simples;" allow me to ask a question, previous to which, permit me to praise the thing so caustic and hot to the curers of the V. D. which I do with sincerity, and hope should any of the aforesaid group while exclaiming against it, be heard to cry, "burn it in hell," that it may be forgiven them.

Having occasion the other day to pass down Old Gravel Lane, my attention was attracted by a gilded, not a pill, but a pestal and mortar, suspended in front of a house by an iron rod from the second floor window, and about two feet above it a large board, which was illumined with the following words written in old letters: "Dr. D—'s Medical Establishment, established 30 years." In both windows of the front parlour I saw the same attractive placard on a transparent blind; one pane of glass was, and had been long broken, which admitted of a man's head being put through with the greatest ease, and was in the bargain an excellent ventilator; keep-

ing it open is easily accounted for; for in November months it is very warm, close, and sultry, "and all that sort of thing," "and every thing else besides in the world," for persons to have large ventilators open in their houses. Over the door was a bottle in the shape of a tinder-box, filled with coloured water, which was enclosed in an economical oil lamp, having three of its sides covered with oil paper instead of glass, and moreover, more properly speaking more under, was a young gentleman equipped with a pen over his right ear, an apron over his knees, and his finger nails in his head, waiting, so I suppose, for customers; now the spirit of the Medical Adviser to know who's who, or who's what, immediately stirred within me, and taking out my pencil I took an inventory of what was to be seen, have enclosed it for your perusal; and the doctor wants to know who is he, who has a twelve-month's dust lodging on every whole windowpane in his house; can he be a doctor? a decent respectable man, fit to enter a gentleman's parlour, eh?

I pause for a reply, till which, I am, Sir,

Yours sincerely,  
G. F. M.

[D— is a brother-in-law of  
Jordan.]—ED.

DR. EADY.

### *The Doctor's Last Hand-bill.*

"SUCH are the indirect puffs in all the Provincial Journals in this Kingdom, from the regular Quacks, and their wonderful discoveries, remarkable sayings, and canting compliments, (as well as in the *Threepenny Medical Periodicals*,) that the Public's old Trumpeter is induced to put fresh energies, lest he should be mistaken for a regular Quack. By which means the community will not be deceived by misrepresentation, or allured into false confidence, by flourishes that may end fatally. But, by the simple sound of Dr. EADY'S TRUMPET, the Af-



flicted are called to rally round his unfurled banners, where thousands have shouted 'Victory!'

"38, *Dean-street, Soho, London.*

"Dr. Eady's Cough and Digestive Pills have never failed in affording relief to Consumptive and Asthmatic Persons.—Price 2s. 9d. per box, with directions."

[*Woe to the taker of those pills!—CONSUMPTION and ASTHMA!!!—Eady's pills for such diseases!—This is too much of "a good thing."*—ED.]

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

A LEGAL friend of mine having occasion some time since to serve Dr. Eady, of quacking fame, with the copy of a writ, and having made several ineffectual attempts to gain access to him, at length had recourse to the following expedient:—

A young and fashionably dressed articled clerk was directed to call at the house of the worthy doctor, at his usual hour for seeing patients, and to take his turn with them, which he accordingly did; and after waiting some time, was ushered into the doctor's presence. The latter, seeing a patient so well dressed, (and not doubting that he should receive a handsome recompense) was not a little elated, and advancing to the door in high good humour, took hold of the young gentleman by the collar, and accosted him in the following manner:—"Oh, you are a sad young dog! What, I suppose you have got in for it, eh? Come, out with it, let's see it." The young man did not wait for a second bidding, but immediately pulled out—not what the doctor expected to see—but a copy of the aforesaid writ, with which he presented him in all due form. The astonishment and disappointment of the doctor may be easily imagined; his golden dreams vanished, and his countenance, before enlightened with

smiles, immediately fell. It is, however, but justice to add, that after the first blush of disappointment, he laughed heartily at the joke, and paid the money, with all the expenses.

If you think the above worthy insertion in your very useful publication, it is very much at your service.

LEGALIS.

P. S. This clearly shews that the doctor is smarting under the lashing he has received at your hands.

---

H—, THE CANCER QUACK OF CONISBROUGH.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

INDEPENDENT of the numerous suggestions that have already appeared to convince the public by proofs the most striking, as regards the result arising from the encouraging of quackery, it may not be esteemed amiss to inculcate a few other remarks, in addition to those already in circulation. Ever since your valuable publication commenced an active engagement in annihilating quackery, and exposed such unprincipled animals in their true colours; and in the vicinity of Conisbrough, the common prevalence of cases recited, and their universal melancholy result, have awakened, in all orders of society, an active cupidity to propagate this only infallible expedient of advancing what is sufficiently evident to convince the meanest capacity, how necessary it becomes, nay, even a paramount duty, to take warning, after such a kind friend as the editor of this work, having exerted his utmost endeavours to preserve that necessary blessing, "Health," which is deserving of the richest encomiums of praise, in sinking the audacious quacks into deserving contempt.

I propose again to advise a little of Dr. H—'s *lapis infernalis* to be applied to his sensitive organs; and after considering deliberately how



highly requisite it becomes, to repeat the application prior to producing the wished-for effect, I anticipate some one will step forward, and give a correct report of this keeper, and not neglect keeping up the effect, but touch this caustic gentleman without delay. I can assure you this Conisbrough quack requires a little serious consideration, and decisive treatment, for he has become so callous, that mild applications exert no influence in preventing him proving, in every instance, an universal destroyer. The father of a family, whose prosperity, whose very existence, perhaps, depends on his life, may fall a sacrifice to the ignorance of this keen assassin. His remedies may burst the gates of death—may rend asunder the dearest ties of kindred, of friendship, of love, and plunge a trembling soul into an unprepared-for eternity. Are not these awful considerations sufficiently powerful to remedy the evil by destroying quackery.

Dr. H——, as before stated, applies this *lapis infernalis* to all indiscriminately that unfortunately ask his advice: none escape its direful ravages. Those who have applied, now repent, and I could advance cases well authenticated; but, to be brief, I will mention the diseases that, to my knowledge, have undergone this regular routine of practice: *Scrofula*, *Fistula*, *noli me tangere*, *nevi materni*, and every enlarged gland or tumour is pronounced by this wiseacre a cancer, and undergoes the caustic treatment by this Dr. H——: are not these sufficient to deter those afflicted from neglecting to apply to a well-educated surgeon, and avoid that destructive Dr. H—. The following anecdote I humbly submit for a place in your inestimable publication, being very applicable and appropriate, as touching upon that blind cancer-doctor of Conisbrough. The doctor was called in to visit a gentleman who felt a little indisposed. H——, who was dead drunk, after having examined his pulse, desired him to put out his tongue, and the doctor applying his finger to the patient's

unshaven chin, instead of his tongue, cried out, "Give him some drink! give him some drink! his tongue is as rough as a nutmeg-grater." How long will the public remain blind?

T. S. O.

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### C—— AND T——, THE SHEFFIELD QUACKS.

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

You will much oblige a constant reader by giving insertion to the two undermentioned dislocating quacks:—

There are two notoriously ignorant men, who style themselves bone-setters, (but who ought rather to be denominated dislocators.) Dr. C——, of Wadsley, near Sheffield, and the other, Dr. T——, New Fields, Sheffield; these two have escaped notice as yet in your publication, but I trust these dislocators will shortly be openly exposed. Dr. C—— is never called to any accident without discovering a bone misplaced or luxated, which he pretends to reduce prior to his leaving the house; and oftentimes such cruel and painful extensions are made by these quacks, who are as ignorant of anatomy (which is alpha and omega in surgery) as a child; but they occasionally succeed in making them, by their cries, believe his statement is correct; and he has got a method peculiar to himself, of making a noise very similar to a dislocated bone returning into its socket, and thus he gulls them. This Dr. C—— was sent for to a man who had previously been examined by a regular educated surgeon, and upon examining the man, he found the left thigh was fractured; but upon hearing they were not satisfied with his professional abilities, but preferred a regular quack, Dr. C—— was sent for, and he determined to satisfy them what a quack knew about the bones. He removed the splints from the left leg, and applied them to the right leg, which was sound; and he



then felt confident he should convince them how ignorant bone-setters were; for he assured them he would find the right knee dislocated, which was not without foundation; for as soon as this bone-setter arrived, he commenced running down the surgeons, that they were all blockheads together, for binding up the leg without first having reduced the luxated knee-joint. The patient himself informed him he was examining the uninjured limb; but he was going to commence with extension, when the surgeon and friends came in, and requested him to leave the house immediately, and never enter it any more, for they were then perfectly satisfied, and fully convinced of the ignorance of bone-setters. Dr. T—— is just such another, and makes cruelly painful extensions in all cases, out or in. A child had laboured for a serious time under a disease of the hip, very common amongst children, and this Dr. T—— wantonly exposed the child to a most painful extension. That in this enlightened country, men without education should be, with impunity, suffered to degrade a most useful profession, and put to the torture those who have the folly to apply, is a disgrace to our laws, and calls loudly for prevention. I hope some persons in Sheffield will not allow them any longer to escape unnoticed, but expose such villains.

T. S. O.

### MANCHESTER QUACKS.

THE following list has been sent us from Manchester; we wish to know if they are quacks.

Sam. Mathews.

Dr. Webster.

Dr. Bird.

Dr. Warburton.

Dr. Bedale.

Dr. Caffarata. (a horrible rascal.)

Dr. Walwork.

Dr. Lord.

God help the Manchester people! Is there any humane person that can give us the history of the above, or any of them?



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*An Ignorant Apothecary's treatment of Ophthalmia.*—We consider the following passage in a late work on Dropsies, by Dr. Venables, of Henley on Thames, of so much importance, that we feel it a duty to transcribe it.

“A circumstance,” says Dr. V. “came under my observation a day or two since, which I cannot pass over without animadversion. A pauper belonging to a neighbouring parish, brought her daughter, a little girl about six years old, to me, to tell her ‘if I thought she could be cured of a sore eye, with which she had been afflicted for the last three months.’ She told me that the apothecary who attended the parish, had been giving her eye-washes and poultices during the whole of this period, but that she experienced no relief whatever. In despair she brought her little girl to me. Judge of my surprise, when I discovered that a small extraneous body, about half the size of a pin's head, imbedded in the lucid cornea, was the sole source of an inflammation, which baffled both the science and the powerful collyria of this gentleman. From the long continued irritation, red vessels were just beginning to shoot into the lucid cornea, and no doubt in a very short time the structure of the organ would have suffered, and opacity of the cornea would have ensued. I took this case to my friend Mr. Jeston, who, in less than fifteen seconds, removed this substance with a common silver probe. It appears to be the husk of a small seed, and I have preserved it in my collection as a memento of an ignorance (I wish I could say negligence) which would be dis-



graceful to the youngest tyro in the profession.

Thus it is that by false economy in employing quacks of the lowest description upon reduced terms, permanent burthens are thrown upon the public. Had the sight of this

little patient been sacrificed to the ignorance of this pretender she must have eventually become not only an unhappy burthen to herself, but a source of permanent expense to her parish. We do not envy this illiterate Æsculapius his feelings.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. OLIVES' letter is under consideration; the attack he makes upon *Trueman, Dunkin's* opponent, by no means refutes his statement. We will perhaps insert it, or part of it, next week.

The Editor returns thanks to the Chemical Society, for their ticket of admission.

O. P. Q. and F. A. W. were written to on Wednesday last.

J. D. N. an Enemy to Quackery, will oblige us by further remarks upon the Manchester quacks—authentic.

ZENO—The matter inclosed, and stated to have been extracted from a loaf by a hot knife, appears to be composed of mucilage and salt.

H. A's, and W. W's letter on Courtenay, are received. If the latter gentleman sends an address, he shall have advice regarding the colchicum.

C. F. of Hull, should rest for a month, during which time he should take ten grains of cream of tartar and five of rhubarb every day. If no better, then he should place himself under the direction of a skilful surgeon.

K. Z. take no astringents, but be electrified across the pubis and hips. Write to us then.

J. G. take a little cream of tartar daily without the gum arabic, for a week, then write.

J. B. K.—We envy him his "disease," he is no food for the worms.

G. B. R.—Pour cold water on the head thrice a day, and keep the bowels regular with rhubarb and cream of tartar.

A. Q. L's constitution is seriously deranged. The sore gums are only symptomatic. Let him eat oranges daily, and take small doses of salts occasionally. Write in a week.

EDMUND.—No.

A. K.—See the latter number of the Medical Adviser.

W. M.—Her disease arises from constipation in all probability. Let her take a dose of physic, and then the following method:—From five to ten grains of rhubarb every day, at twelve o'clock, so as to produce one motion. Write again; but if she become worse, call in a physician.

*A respectful and old Subscriber*, would do well to blister the back in the manner described, page 362 last number of the Medical Adviser, and write us the effect. Has he not signed A. B. B.?

RICHARD DUKE is not explicit enough for our opinion.

We mean to notice the subject hinted at by Mr. Webb.

H———Y D———Y, will find some observations on chilblains in one of our early numbers. We mean however to take up the subject again shortly.

JEAN's has come to hand. There is no circulation of the nerves. His theory although ingenious, is not founded upon correct physiological principles.

Hollway's letter on sleep shall perhaps appear next week.

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No. 54.]

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[Price 3d.]



## TOOTH-DRAWERS AND JAW-BREAKERS.

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## TOOTH-DRAWERS AND JAW-BREAKERS.

(See Plate.)

WHEN the front teeth are loose, they may, in most cases, be taken out by pincers; but from the eye teeth backwards, they require a proper instrument, called a key. Country tooth-drawers begin to learn their "profession" by pulling out teeth with strings and pincers, and, from the facility they find in taking out loose teeth, they at last take to grapple with sound ones; and "pull away" being their maxim, many a poor jaw suffers. These "professionals" are generally, barbers, farriers, and bone-setters, (such is the operator represented in the plate.) They do not know, nor do their patients, that there is not only practice and ingenuity required in extracting teeth, but that there is great danger attending the improper performance of the operation, as the "wrenching arms" of many of our apothecaries' and druggists' shopmen often too seriously demonstrate. Exfoliation of the jaw, from splintering a portion of it, has often occurred; excessive inflammation frequently follows the improper extraction of a tooth, and lock-jaw has been known to take place.

We therefore advise all who labour under a cureless tooth-ache to have the tooth extracted by a *dentist*; for dentists, *when not quacks*—and there are many pretended dentists—have practice, in addition to their knowledge of the teeth: and practice in tooth-drawing is of the greatest necessity to make a good operator.

## CAUSE OF GREY HAIR.

SOME hypotheticals, among whom is a modern periodical, confidently assert that the cause of grey hair is a contraction of the skin about the roots of it, and from this cause suppose that polar animals become white—the cold operating as

the contracting power. If this argument were true, we should be all grey if we happened to be exposed to a hard frost! There are fewer grey people in Russia than in Italy or Arabia; for the Russians having more generally light-coloured hair, do not so often or so soon feel the effects of the grizzly fiend as those whose hair is black or dark. Cold, therefore, is nonsense; it assuredly cannot be contraction at the roots of the hairs. Has not the hair of individuals labouring under certain passions become grey in one night? Were these suffering from cold? Rather, were they not burning with internal feeling? Sudden fright has caused the hair to turn grey; but this, as well as every other remote cause, can be freed from the idea of operating by cold or by contraction.

Our opinion is, that the *vis vitæ* is lessened in the *extreme* ramifications of those almost imperceptible vessels destined to supply the hair with colouring fluid. The vessels which secrete this fluid cease to act, or else the absorbent vessels take it away faster than it is furnished. This reason will bear argument; for grief, debility, fright, fever, and age, all have the effect of lessening the power of the extreme vessels.

It may be said in argument against this opinion, that if the body be again invigorated, the vessels ought, according to our reasoning, to secrete again the colouring fluid; but to this we say, that the vessels which secrete this fluid are so very minute, that upon their ceasing their functions they become obliterated, and nothing can ever restore them.

## WHAT KIND OF MEATS ARE MOST DIGESTIBLE.

*Illustrated by Sir Astley Cooper's Experiments.*

EXP. 1.—Four dogs were severally made to swallow 100 parts, long and narrow, of pork, mutton, veal, and beef. On killing them an hour afterwards, the pork had lost ten



parts; the mutton, nine; the veal, four; and the beef none.

EXP.—Four dogs were made severally to swallow the same portions of the same meats, and were killed in two hours. The mutton had lost forty-six parts; the beef, thirty-four; the veal, thirty-one; and the pork, 20.

EXP. 3.—Four dogs had the same quantities, and were killed in three hours. The pork had lost ninety-eight; the mutton, eighty-seven; the beef, thirty-seven; and the veal, forty-six.

EXP. 4.—Four dogs had the same quantities, and were killed in four hours. The pork was wholly digested; the mutton had lost ninety-four; the beef, seventy-five; and the veal, sixty-nine.

EXP. 5.—Four dogs were severally made to swallow 100 parts, long and narrow, of beef, rabbit, cod-fish, and cheese. They were killed in two hours, when it was also found that the beef had lost none: the rabbit, none; the cod-fish, seventy-four; and the cheese, twenty-nine.

EXP. 6.—Six dogs were severally made to swallow 100 parts of muscle, skin, gristle, sinew, bone, and fat. They were killed in four hours, and it was found that the fat was all digested; the muscle had lost thirty-six; the skin, twenty-two; the gristle, twenty-one; the sinew, six; and the bone, 5. In another experiment, the whole of the bone was digested in six hours.

[These experiments, performed by Sir Astley Cooper, shew that the stomach of a dog can more easily digest pork and fish than other meats; and we see no experiment nor hypothetical reason why it would not be the same with the human stomach, and that of all carnivorous and omnivorous animals. Until similar or equally efficacious experiments be performed upon the human stomach, we cannot dispute this. Would it not be proper, for the general benefit of mankind, to try such experiments on criminals executed for murder?]

—ED.

## ACCOUNT OF CORONERS' INQUESTS.

(From *Smith's Principles of Forensic Medicine.*)

CONCERNING the regulations under which the coroner's summons is to be issued—the manner of impanelling a jury, &c., I must refer my readers who are desirous of information, to law books; such, for instance, as those that relate to the duties of magistrates. Medical men should certainly make themselves acquainted with the occasions and forms of holding inquests; as such investigations are often of the utmost importance to them.

I consider it sufficient here to say, that they are called for upon any fatal event, which takes place in an unnatural or unusual manner, or wherever there may be cause for supposing that such has been the case, or where rumours to that effect have prevailed. Upon these latter grounds, bodies are not unfrequently disinterred by authority of the coroner, and submitted to the inspection of medical men, in order to ascertain, if possible, the nature of the cause of death.

If a corpse be found in a place where, in the usual course of affairs, it ought not to be, it must not be disposed of until the coroner's warrant either authorises its interment in the regular manner, or that it should be buried as directed by the law of suicide; and this warrant he cannot issue until after he has held his inquest, and the jury has returned their verdict as to the nature of the event. Too often it happens, that the verdict is precipitate, and even unfounded. Juries grudge their attendance, and coroners' juries are not always composed of the most intelligent members—very often because the bounds within which they must be found, do not afford great abundance of the best qualified materials. Medical men too frequently grudge their attendance also; and I have no hesitation in saying, that the circumstances under which their attendance is frequently required, are



grievous. But parish surgeons enter on their office with a knowledge of what they are liable to; and should not be impatient when required to illuminate a coroner's jury. Impatience, however, is often glaringly manifested by all parties; and if the forms of an inquest can be got through, without more than superficial enquiries, so much the better.

I shall now confine myself to a few remarks on the more ordinary terms in which the verdicts of coroners' juries are rendered; merely premising, that they may be as various as the events to which they have relation; and counselling the reader to seek for more copious illustrations in the common newspapers—hardly one of which does not contain something of this nature.

A verdict of "Natural Death" is commonly returned, where the event is traced to an adequate cause, independent of culpability, or unusual accident. Such, for instance, as sudden death by apoplexy, bursting of an aortal aneurism, a rupture of the heart, or other derangement of organs upon whose integrity and healthy action, the maintenance of life depends. In many such cases, a specific statement is recorded, and we therefore often meet with the terms Apoplexy, &c.

Of "Accidental Death," I shall merely say, that it means a death of some violent nature, or from some unusual or unnatural cause, extraneous to the body. Bursting of a blood vessel, or fatal lesion of some vital organ from a mere morbid cause, would less properly belong to accident, than to the former case, if not to "Death by the visitation of God;" under which, usage seems to comprehend those cases where no marks of a suspicious nature are discovered, but at the same time no positive or satisfactory evidence as to the cause of death. This verdict is returned in many cases of aged persons dying suddenly, and might be proper in some diseases—as spasmodic affections of the stomach, &c. where they prove suddenly fatal.

The term is ambiguous, for "Visitation" ordinarily implies something in the nature of punishment. However, it seems merely to signify, that in the opinion of the jury the event is one of the inscrutable occurrences in the administration of Providence, for which it would be vain to attempt to account.

Of the term "Homicide," which literally implies killing a man, there are various modifications. It may be "culpable," as when one person kills another, by firing a gun at him not knowing or not believing it to be loaded—it being an improper act to handle fire arms in a manner which may injure; or it may be "justifiable," as when a person kills another in his own defence. In the first case, the verdict would probably be "Manslaughter."

Of "Wilful Murder," so many elucidations are given throughout the text, that a single word here is unnecessary, beyond a caution to medical witnesses as to the share they ought or ought not to have in procuring such a verdict by their evidence. Although the power of life and death does not rest with the coroner, and the real merits of the case may be established afterwards, by other means than those to which he may have resorted, yet the charge, and subsequent imprisonment of a person whose innocence may be made as clear as noon-day, are perhaps almost as ruinous to him as an ignominious end itself. It is scandalous to see how often the evidence of the same person leads to different results, when given before the coroner, and when delivered in presence of a judge. Let the practitioner reflect, that indifference, when speaking on oath, is allied to perjury; and that, if sworn in the parlour of a village ale-house, before a dozen or two of his simple neighbours, his responsibility is not less awful than when stuck up in a county hall, before wigs, robes, and gowns, cross-examiners, brow-beaters, and short-hand writers.

Enough has been said on the sub-



ject of Suicide to supersede the necessity of explanatory matter on the term "Felo de se." I shall merely remark, that the verdict is no doubt returned with perfect justice whenever it is given; but that, in the opinion of all medical authors who have turned their minds to the subject, it is often withheld where it is due, with equal propriety. I will not go so far as to say that this verdict was seldom issued against a person of what is called "consideration"—but there is no impropriety in affirming that it has, in almost every instance, been confined to the cases of those charged, or, at least, suspected of crimes beyond that of their own destruction. The very last instance of any notoriety was certainly a clear proof of this assertion; and what renders it the more worthy of notice was, not merely the nature of the affair, but the fact of it being the last example in which the old law was put in force.

In this case, the power of the coroner was so strikingly exemplified, and the event itself was so extraordinary, that a few words concerning it may be added. A young gentleman and his father were found dead in one apartment, each lying on his back, with their feet towards each other—the elder with clean gloves on, and the younger with his fingers soiled in the way that is noticed in those who discharge fire-arms. The previous report of pistols and other circumstances were given in evidence, in such a manner as to convince not only the jury, but the world at large, that the double crimes of parricide and felonious suicide had been committed by the son: a verdict of "Felo de se" was accordingly returned, and the body was interred by night at a "quatre bras." The new law was about to pass at this very time, and the ceremony of the stake was omitted. Soon afterwards the corpse was removed, and suffered to be re-inhumed in the ordinary burial-ground of one of the London work-houses. In this instance, the plea of insanity was urged, and with

such force, that if we compare the evidence to that effect with the apology for evidence that is commonly accepted, it is unavoidable to conclude, that had it been simply a case of self murder, the verdict would have been different.

"That the deceased destroyed himself in a temporary fit of derangement," is of all others the meaning of the majority of such verdicts, whatever may be the means of destruction, or the precise terms employed to express the same. Juries have been too much in the habit of coming to such decisions, if we consider the principle that should influence them; for it is rarely derived from medical testimony.

With one word to my professional brethren I shall leave the subject. I counsel them to beware of aiding by their observations, or of countenancing, by an unbecoming acquiescence, such a bias in a coroner's jury to make free with the term "Insanity" on such occasions. The verdict saves public agitation and disgust (now indeed to a very trifling amount); and *may* save property—but at what expense? No less than stamping on a family, totally free perhaps from any disposition of the kind, the character of having this awful hereditary malady.

There are innumerable other descriptions of verdicts which it would be impossible here to discuss; nor, as they consist in general of a short specific statement of the peculiar circumstances to which they relate, would there be much use in attempting to exemplify them. The best source of examples is the newspapers of the day.

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#### EXTRAORDINARY LETHARGY.

*Detailed in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Paris.*

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A MAN of about forty-five, of a robust, dry constitution, by trade a carpenter, happened to quarrel with another carpenter he worked for; a little while after our sick man heard that his adversary was killed by a fall from a building; he was



so shocked at this news, that he threw himself on the ground; his spirits and senses were insensibly lulled asleep; in April he was carried to La Charité, where he remained to the August following, full four months. For the first two months he gave no signs of voluntary motion or sensation; his eyes were constantly shut, he often would move his eyelids; his respiration was free; his pulse was both small and slow; though equal; when his arm was raised, it would remain raised, as in a catalepsy, though no other part of his body would do so; all that supported him during these two months, were a few spoonfuls of wine, which he swallowed every day; he therefore became greatly emaciated; during these first two months, he was blooded in both the neck, arm and foot: had strong emetics, and purges given him, was blistered, had leeches applied, and volatile medicines given him, but all to no other purpose, but to talk sensibly for the space of one day, to his wife and the friars of the hospital. He fell after into as profound a sleep as before; during the last two months he remained in the hospital, he by intervals began to give some signs of sensation, as by squeezing his wife's hand; at other times by heavy sighs, especially when he had not been purged for some days; he from this time ceased to do all under him; he was careful to turn himself to the bed-side, where there was an oil-cloth laid on purpose; and when he had done his occasions, he would return into his place again; he never gave any signs that he wanted any thing; however he began to take food; he still preserved his relish for wine; at meal-hours they used to touch his lips; at this signal he would open his mouth, and swallow what they gave him; and lay still, till they had touched his lips as before; all this time his eyes remained closed; when he was taken up he remained in the same posture without motion, and his eyes shut; eight days before he was discharged out of the hospital, they threw him into the cold

bath, which surprized him effectually; he then opened his eyes; looked earnestly, though without speaking a word; his wife took him home after, where he soon came to his senses, and without the help of any medicines, mended every day.

Here is a stumbling block to all vain philosophical reasoners, who pretend to get the mastery of reason in her most hidden ways; they see, admire, search, and yet discover nothing.

M. Imbert, who related the above history, to account for so surprising a sleepiness, considers, first, How sleep in general is produced. Secondly, How grief acts upon the soul. Obstructions of the brain, or a relaxation of its vessels, or too great a refraction of the blood, from an abuse of spirits, or too great a dissipation of the animal spirits, will induce sleep, wherein the daily wastes of our bodies are repaired; the passions of the soul might produce the same effect; sudden grief for example, is known to thicken the blood, so as to suspend the circulation of the blood, and often occasion death; sudden joy, by rarefying the blood too suddenly, has been observed to have the same effect, to occasion death; to apply this to the case before us, this man, a carpenter by profession, a sot by inclination, had so thick blood, that the few active principles it contained were with difficulty disengaged. They were therefore the longer retained in the brain, so that hours of sleep were not sufficient to disentangle them; they required whole months to secrete a necessary quantity to awake him, resembling herein the marmotte who sleeps six months, till his spirits insensibly disengaging themselves, he awakes without any assistance; the six months he is awake, he feeds sufficiently, wastes but little, and by that means lays up a sufficient supply for his six sleeping months; something like this might be this man's case; during the first two months, his sleep was profound; somewhat like the marmotte, the following two months, by intervals he gave signs



of sensation, till at length, like the marmotte, the animal spirits were disengaged from his blood in a sufficient quantity to awake him, and like him awoke, and recovered without any assistance from art.

M. Homberg read before the academy 1707, a Dutch letter, giving an account of a similar case; grief also for three months before preceded this sleepiness; the person fell at last into a profound sleep, which held him six months successively, without interruption; during which time he gave no signs either of voluntary motion or sensation; at the end of six months, he awoke, discoursed with every body that came to see him, but in twenty-four hours after he fell again asleep, and how long he has continued, is not known, as M. Homberg heard no more of him. The carpenter's case falls much short of the Dutchman's; he slept but two months, however the cataleptic state, the signs he gave of one asleep, and awake, the effects the cold bath had on him, are so many rare peculiarities, as are worthy of attention.

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### INVETERATE COUGH CURED.

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As the following may do as much as our particular advice in similar cases, we think it may be beneficial.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I am not ambitious of a greater pleasure, than that of complying with your request—reporting to you the state of my health.

It were perhaps unnecessary to state that my complaint was a confirmed cough, which harassed me both day and night,—and occasional vomiting of about half a pint of clear water, and a weakness in my limbs, particularly in the legs, which were often so painful, that they refused to perform their functions. I was oppressed with these ailments for eight or nine months, during which period I had the unsuccessful advice of several of the most emi-

nent in the profession. In August I wrote to you; your philanthropy prescribed as follows:

“Anne R—— should blister her breast once every fortnight until she finds relief. A cup of horehound tea taken in the morning, fasting, will serve her. She should drink soda-water and milk, equal parts, and keep her bowels regular with rhubarb and magnesia.”

I followed strictly the directions of your prescription; the first blister made me very ill,—in a few days I was much better; and had but one vomit before I applied the second blister: the latter did not cause so much uneasiness as the former one, but I was now making gigantic strides towards convalescence. I should observe, however, that, according to your prescription, every morning I drank a cup of horehound tea, and about noon, a draught of soda water and milk, in equal parts; my bowels I kept regular with rhubarb and magnesia.

I have before informed you that my health is re-established; the pleasurable feelings, which arise from the knowledge of having done an act of beneficence, is the greatest reward to the good man; to that reward I can add nothing, save those prayers, which will ever emanate from the bosom of

Your obliged

and humble servant,

ANNE R——.

Hereford, 5th Nov. 1824.

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### FALLING OFF OF THE HAIR.

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

Sir,

I HAVE the misfortune of gradually losing my hair in spite of every effort to preserve it.

Not being sufficiently versed in physiology to be able to ascertain the cause of it, I am induced to resort to this mode of making my complaint known to you, in the hope of meeting with a remedy.

The disorder cannot arise from



old age, because I have not yet attained my 23rd year; neither from delicate health, for my constitution is strong, and my health good.

I have tried Macassar oil, Russia oil, and pomatum, and also a hair-wash prepared and sold by a hair-dresser named Dawson, but without effect.

I find it asserted in Chambers's Dictionary of Arts, title "Hair," that the falling off of the hair is a prognostic of approaching nervous diseases, which goes to maintain that this disease originates in the disordered state of the blood; but as I suppose that several discoveries have been made on this subject since the publication of that Encyclopedia, the assertion may be unfounded. The same book quotes a remedy for the falling off of the hair from the Phil. Trans., viz. "to boil the tendrils of the vine in red urine, and wash the hair with the decoction nightly before going to bed;" but the proportion of each is not mentioned, nor have I ever heard that it has been found to answer.

If we may judge of the importance attached by mankind to this disease from the number of quack remedies for it, it is well worth the attention and research of men profoundly versed in physiology and anatomy, who may be disposed to devote their talents in this way to the service of mankind. It appears to me that the nice point for discussion will be, whether the disease arises from a certain disordered state of the blood; or entirely from external causes.

I shall feel greatly obliged by your pointing out an effectual remedy for my ailment in your usual notices to correspondents in an early number of your valuable publication, and in the meantime, I remain.

Your's,

IAGO.

Brunswick-square, Nov. 22, 1824.

P. S.—The following are a few observations I have made as to what accelerates the falling off of hair when there is already a predisposition to it. 1st. Perspiration. 2d.

A tight hat. 3d. Travelling, whereby the hat is kept on for a length of time. 4th. Using a too hard hair brush, or a small tooth comb for cleansing the hair, which irritates the skin, and produces scurf in a threefold degree; and it may be here observed that in this disease the skin of the head is extremely susceptible of irritation; as an instance of it, I cannot put my hand through my hair to raise it from its natural recumbent posture, without some feeling of pain.

As I am not of the medical profession, I hope you will excuse any errors I may have made in the above statement.

[Now we think that the cause of the hair falling off is constitutional except in scurfy diseases of the head, and therefore the principal remedies ought to be directed to the constitution. Every means should be adopted to invigorate the body, and to lighten the mind. The local remedies are simple—clean the hair with rum, or *Eau de Cologne* every night, on a soft brush, then comb it very gently, and pour cold water upon the head every morning, after which gently dry it. A drop or two of sweet oil twice a week should also be used.]

## THEORY OF SLEEP.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I HAVE perused with pleasure the "Theory of Sleep" in your last Number, but being unprofessional, I am unable to convey my ideas, I fear, intelligibly on the subject; but can deplore the want of that common blessing, for the last six years not having tasted the repose of one night; the remark appeared certainly strange to me, the novel term "confusion in the circulation of the blood produced by wine or spirits," but as regards myself, I never find the operation of sleep occasioned by such stimulus, the consequence to me is a greater irritability of the



nerves, and a spasmodic affection in the stomach: during the whole of the time usually dedicated to sleep, I am thoroughly susceptible, and if I may use the term, also thoroughly unconscious of what is said or passing, but after every violent convulsive exclamation my conversationality begins; the person in my room generally treasures up my lucubrations, and we generally know our tale when we meet it, and his veracity is unquestionable; my replies to questions are ludicrously extravagant, but pertinent, shewing that I have method in my freaks. In my former letter, I mentioned that "hyrscicum," prescribed by Dr. G., in some degree operated as a soporific, but considering it a dangerous medicine, I did not persevere with it; my frame of course suffers much for want of repose; the moment I lay down, the organs of vision close for a few minutes, when a convulsive contortion takes place, I then rise up in my bed and converse with those around me, but as I before stated, unconsciously; this is repeated at intervals till seven o'clock, when I rise; the effects of indigestion must be supposed to have ceased by that time; one moment of sleep is never my lot unless accompanied by dreams; the sensitiveness of the nerves prevent drowsiness, my head is much affected, aperients weaken and tonics inflame, (sylla and choubades) I have never accustomed myself to narcotics; the remedy you prescribed, Port wine, I fear to indulge in as I am a feverish subject; I have often seen noticed in your valuable work, French tonic wine, probably it might be worth trial as a substitute. The well known Dr. F. remarked, he should like to see me during those nocturnal aberrations; he attributed the whole to a polluted stomach; my attendant could compile a volume serio comic; Lacon might hide his diminished head; my answers as well as remarks create surprise, but not a shadow is left on the mind by the morning.

From my own case, I must infer that the brain is ever at work

"detect its fibs, &c." The creature is always at work, and nothing short of annihilation stops its career; the ignorance of what has passed, no doubt is occasioned by the subdud state of the nerves. The consequence of fresh air and exercise, is the bracing the system without creating irritability; but as regards myself, change of air begets excitement, and the hideous monster follows me in every situation, annoying others as well as myself, and although neither hypochondriacally or suicidically inclined, I long to shake off this mortal care.—It is too much to trespass by asking further advice.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. URB.

Your remark as to grief is without foundation.

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### CARELESS DRUGGISTS.

It is painful to think that many druggists have been reported to us as not being furnished with the *new* medicines, which are of such useful properties.

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### LEMON, ITS PROPERTIES.

THE lemon-tree is a native of Assyria and Persia, whence it was brought into Europe; first to Greece, and afterwards to Italy. It is now cultivated in Spain, Portugal, and France, and is not uncommon in our green-houses. It is a beautiful evergreen, of small growth, sending off numerous branches covered with a greyish bark. The leaves are alternate, of a shining pale green colour, ovate, acuminate, about four inches long and two inches broad, slightly indented at the edges, and supported on naked linear footstalks. The flowers, which appear the greater part of the summer, are odoriferous, large, and placed on simple and branched peduncles, arising from the smaller branches. The calyx



is saucer-shaped, with the teeth pointed; the petals are oblong, concave, white, with a purplish tinge on the outside; the filaments, united at their base into four parcels, support yellow vertically-placed anthers; and the germen is superior, roundish, and having a simple style with a globular stigma. The fruit is an ovate berry, pointed at each end, rough, punctured, externally of a pale yellow colour, and internally divided into seven, nine, or eleven cells, containing four seeds in each, and filled with vesicles distended with an extremely acid juice. The rind is double: the exterior part thin, yellow, and chiefly made up of a great number of vesicles filled with a very fragrant oil; the interior is thicker and whiter than the exterior; and coriaceous.

Lemons are brought to England from Spain and Portugal packed in chests, and each lemon separately rolled in paper. The Spanish lemons are most esteemed.

Lemon juice is sharp, but very gratefully acid. It consists principally of the citric acid, mucilage, extractive matter, a small proportion of sugar and water. Before Scheele's process was known, many different unsuccessful plans were adopted for separating the citric acid; which is now obtained in a crystallized form, and admitted into the London and Dublin pharmacopœias. The simple juice, although well depurated of its extractive matter, yet soon spoils; and therefore the crystallized acid dissolved in water is generally used in its stead.

The rind is warm, aromatic, and slightly bitter, qualities depending on the essential oil it contains, which is given out to water, wine, and alcohol. The essential oil obtained by distillation is extremely light, nearly colourless, and fragrant; and has the same taste as the rind, only in a greater degree. It is very volatile, yet does not readily rise with alcohol or with proof spirit.

Lemon juice is refrigerant and antiseptic. It is given diluted with water and sweetened, forming the beverage called lemonade, to quench

thirst, and abate heat in febrile and inflammatory diseases. Given alone to the extent of a table-spoonful for a dose, it allays hysterical palpitations of the heart; and in combination with carbonate of potass (fʒss. of the juice to ʒj. of the salt,) taken in a state of effervescence, it is used with great success to stop vomiting, and determine to the surface. A still more useful and pleasant effervescing draught is made by putting a table-spoonful of lemon juice, mixed with a small quantity of sugar, into a tumbler, and pouring over it half a pint of aerated soda water. On account of its antiseptic powers, lemon juice is successfully used in scurvy; and for this purpose large quantities of it, in a concentrated state, are distributed in the navy; but the continued use of it is said to be hurtful to the general health of the men, and to hasten the progress of phthisis where it makes its appearance. The citric acid is likely to supersede its employment in the navy. Dr. Wright observes, that its powers are increased by saturating it with muriate of soda, and recommends such a mixture in remittent fever, dysentery, colic, putrid sore throat, and as being almost specific in diabetes and lenteria. It is given also united with camphor, infusion of cinchona and wine, in the same cases; and mixed with ardent spirits and water with sugar, it forms punch, which is a useful cordial in low fevers.

Lemon peel is added to stomach tinctures and infusions, and is particularly applicable in dyspepsia, arising from irregularities in diet, and the inordinate use of ardent spirits.

The essential oil is chiefly used as a perfume, to cover the smell of sulphur in ointments compounded with it.



## OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Fuller's Earth mixed with Cream or Milk, and applied externally, in cases of Hemorrhoids or Piles.*

A good remedy, rather auxiliary in the cure.

*The Fat of an Eel dropped into the Ear to cure Deafness.*

This is a good remedy in cases of deafness arising from hardened wax; it should be used three times a-day.

## USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

### *For Chapped Lips:*

One part of purified wax,  
Two of the best purified honey,  
heated over the fire and stirred; add a few drops of the oil of roses.

### *Oil for Sprains.*

Of olive oil, two ounces,  
camphor, rubbed well with a little of the oil, and then added to the whole, one drachm.

Very little of this is to be used at a time, and to be rubbed gently on the parts before the fire.



## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### *Second General Meeting of the NEW COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.*

THIS meeting took place at St. Catherine's, Wapping, last week, at six o'clock in the evening, in consequence of a resolution which was carried at the last meeting, viz.—“To take into con-

sideration the infamous libels of the Medical Adviser.” There was a much greater attendance on this occasion than the last, on account of the interesting discussion which was expected to ensue. After some preliminary business had been arranged, the president took the chair. He said he was rejoiced to see so good an attendance of the fellows of this great College on an occasion so interesting. It was pleasing to behold them congregating together for the purpose of putting down one of the greatest nuisances that ever was palmed on the reading public; he alluded to that infamous, shocking, vile, filthy, trashy, and stupid publication called the “Medical Adviser.” (*great applause.*) “Gentlemen,” (continued the president) “I may compare that catch-penny book to a hydra; for no sooner do I remove one head by a threatening letter, when up starts another head, to spin out libels against my fair reputation; and to such a degree has this extended, that the very boys in the street point me out as a pretender, or an intruder in the healing art; some say, there goes the stricture-doctor, others say, here comes Dr. Currie, alias Dr. B——, and one fellow had the impudence to say, could you pass a bougie up a gas-pipe, doctor? (*a laugh.*) In short, gentlemen, I am become quite miserable since the abominable publication has sprung up. Formerly, I had advertisements in every newspaper and magazine; but now, they scruple to insert them for love or for money, and are always giving me this answer,—we have no quack corner. (*hisses.*) But, gentlemen, let us proceed to consider the best mode of suppressing this destroyer of our peace; and in discussing this business, I hope that unanimity will prevail; for I venture to predict, that this evening will be a memorable epoch in the annals of our new College.” The president then sat down.

Dr. Eady was the next speaker. He said, that “He could not find words to express his indignation at



the conduct of that contemptible, and base, and rascally vehicle, of which a Dr. Burnett was the editor. As to myself, (said Dr. E.) I do not care a rush about him, although my business has fallen off through him; he shall not drive me back again to tapes and bobbins, if he write till doomsday. I have got my title of doctor, and I will never part with it, come what will. I endeavoured myself to put down the hydra, as my learned friend calls it. I got a friend,—a schoolmaster, to write a book against that Dr. Burnett, in which he is designated a *goose*, but I have since found that he is more of a *duck*, for he is continually crying quack, quack, quack, (*a loud laugh.*) Gentlemen, I have since left off curing the ———, as there seems to be no more people to heal; myself having conferred that benefit on the Londoners. But, as a learned gentleman said at our last meeting, that Sir Harlequin Daniels (*cries of Colombine*)—I beg pardon—Sir Colombine—Daniels,—had left off making life-preservers, I have taken to that branch of business myself, and I now make life-preservers that will do wonders; a child's caul is nothing to be compared to my life-preservers, for I will warrant that they will not only save from shipwreck, but also from landwreck—aye, even save a thief from the gallows, notwithstanding he may be in the Recorder's black list. (*loud cries of hear! from the president.*) Gentlemen, I will not detain you any longer; I will just beg to move a resolution, which I think will meet with your entire approbation. It is to this effect:—Resolved, 'That a subscription be entered into by this Society for the purpose of putting down the infamous Medical Adviser.' " (*great applause.*)

Dr. Jordan got up to second the motion. He began by saying, that none of the meeting had greater cause to wish the three-penny trash annihilated than himself. He felt that the College ought to make "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull

altogether," to endeavour to choke the monster. "Gentlemen, (said the learned doctor) the thing must be destroyed or *it will destroy us*. In every part of the country its poisonous influence is spreading. As to myself, I dread taking my usual country trips, for on which ever side I move, I meet odium and disgrace. Formerly, I fobbed many a guinea from the *flats* and country bumpkins; but now my head is saluted with rotten eggs, and my ears with the discordant clangour of quack, quack, (*hear, hear!*) Such is the state of things since that vile publication began its career. I bought my carriage for the purpose of cutting a dash in a country town, but I fear that the citizens will only have the pleasure of feasting their eyes upon it, as those poor souls care not what sort of a head a doctor may have, *provided he sports a carriage*. Alas, gentlemen! what a dreadful falling off there is since we last met. My heart is so oppressed that I can scarcely give utterance to my words. No more does the red-coated carrier come thundering to my door, with his hands laden with rich enclosures. Instead of bank notes, I now receive abuse and threatenings; and what will the College say when I tell them, that even the Cordial Balm of Rakasiri is returned to me by hamperfulls as unsaleable." Here the learned Doctor was so overcome by his feelings, as to be unable to proceed for some time, and during the pause there were many a handkerchief displayed by his sympathising brethren. At length Dr. J. resumed. He said that he felt cheered by the sympathy and condolence of his learned friends. He hoped from this day to be able to hold up his head again. He would no longer detain the meeting than by seconding the motion of his learned friend; and to shew his sense of gratitude for their kindness, he would himself—as he had no ready cash—subscribe a dozen of the balm, which was worth twelve guineas. (*some murmurs.*) He then sat down.



Dr. M<sup>r</sup>—— now rose, and spoke as follows. “Gentlemen I am proud to come forward on this occasion to assist with my purse so good a cause, a cause in which we are all deeply interested; and I quite agree with the learned gentleman who last spoke, that unless we destroy root and branch that rascally periodical, it will destroy us (*hear, hear!*) but how to effect that desirable object is a subject for your grave consideration. I have myself endeavoured to do it by means of the law, I have threatened and stormed, but to no purpose; and instead of crushing the monster, I seem to have made him ten times more furious, and audacious; and to mend the matter, I have a thumping lawyer’s bill to pay—(*hear, hear!*) Yes, gentlemen, prejudice has made them so partial that it will not aid us in our laudable undertaking, some other means must be thought on, but what these means are I am at a loss to devise. As to Burnett the Editor I abhor him; he has had the effrontery to say that I killed a little boy. Why, gentlemen, it was not I who killed him, it was the Lancet (*hear, hear!*); and if I paid a deodand of fifty pounds to his mother to hold her tongue, what is that to Burnett. I wish I had my lancet stuck up to the hilt between *his* ribs (*loud cries of bravo from all!*) and if I give away bread and cheese at the Dispensary, what is it to any one, don’t I get the people’s money for it? and have I not a right, according to the beer act, to sell beer as well as the chandlers—but, gentlemen, I am wandering from the subject of debate. I will now ask what is to be done with the money which is proposed to be raised? If it is to go to the lawyers I will never consent, for they can do nothing for us—no; we must proceed otherwise, we must not carry the fortress by storm, but by sap. What I mean by sap is to purchase the work out and out. Gentlemen, every man has his price, and I will answer for it that the publishers, and editor, and all, would turn the tables for a cool fifty pounds (*great*

*applause!*) I will therefore propose that the copyright of the “Medical Adviser” be purchased for the exclusive service of this learned body; (*hear, hear, hear!*) for my own part, gentlemen, I will contribute the profits of my beer establishment for one month, and this is all I have to say on the present occasion.”

The learned physician sat down amidst thunders of applause. At this moment several persons attempted to speak, but the sense of the meeting was in favour of Sir Cancer Aldis. This redoubtable knight got up and put himself in the attitude of an orator, his right hand extended grasping his “*Petersham*,” and his left stuck gracefully in his side—He began thus—“Gentlemen, I feels great pleasure in obeying the call of my brethren, to address them on this momentous occasion; I wish I had the tongue of a Sheridan, to denounce to you with vigour that outrageous catchpenny, which is continually marring our best prospects and interests; for one’s own part, one would wish to have practised fifty years ago rather than now, for at that time our mode of practising met with no reckless opposition from the press, every thing went on swingingly, so much so, that any of us could make a fortune in a couple of years; but now alas! how is the times changed, instead of the newspapers giving us support as they used to do, they give room for our enemy to *syringe* us with his filthiness—(*a laugh.*)

I concur with my learned friends, that the evil has grown so bad that some remedy must be found out to stop it, or otherwise we must all go to the work-house (*loud cries of hear!*) for one’s own part, one does not wish to go back to one’s old quarters again, after one has rid about on horseback like a Lord; and specially after one’s knighthood. No, gentlemen, we will buy the *thing* out and out, and make its columns tell another tale. As to me, gentlemen, I will *editorize* it, for I be an author this long while; my work on cancer is a great work, and there is a *party pictor* in the front that



would do your hearts good to look at it.—(here a somebody cried out, have you got our charter from Court yet Sir Cancer?—(*order! order!*) The President requested the querist not to interrupt the eloquent speech of his learned friend, and begged the speaker to proceed. Sir C resumed his address—“The gentleman who asked that question need not be impatient about the charter. Depend upon it, it will soon be given to our college, for I know how to get a charter as well as a knightship. I know the *hocus pocus* way of going to Court, and getting what one wants there; yes, gentlemen, I know where the *back stairs* is; that is something you will say—yes, and we will get a fine red robe too, and a big gilded what-de-ye-call it—a—*a mace* (*great applause*); but gentlemen, I have lost the thread of my discourse in talking of our honors—I must now turn to the *thing* that dishonors us.—Well, we must bestir ourselves to raise the wind to buy Burnett’s trash: as to me, I cannot give much towards it, one’s housekeeping being so expensive; but here goes, I’ll give a dozen copies of my great work, which is saying something, and with that I have done gentlemen.” (*loud murmurs.*)

*The conclusion of the Report will be given next week.*

## THE MANCHESTER QUACKS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser*  
SIR,

As you have in the last number of your valuable publication, invited information respecting the irregular practitioners of this populous town, I gladly embrace this opportunity of inclosing the following circular:—

The proprietor of the quack pills, is a Druggist, who keeps a small shop in one of the best streets (*King Street*) in Manchester. He has a pretty good prescription business, and as soon as you enter his shop, the following words in large

gilt letters, stare you in the face: “Prescriptions attended to in person.” You will observe, he, as well as most of the Manchester druggists, style themselves apothecaries, although they never were educated as anything but druggists, indeed many of them make as much money by counter practice, as they do by retail trade. We have next S. M———, a thin spare man, in-kneed, with an enormous nose. He commenced his career by selling sand, brick dust, second-hand bottles, a few drugs, &c. He afterwards removed to his present residence, where he professes to cure the venereal disease, &c. &c. (*Vide Cowdroy’s Manchester Gazette.*) He was a few months ago sent to London, as a witness, respecting the Oil Gas Bill, when a gentleman in court said, “We have the notorious Sam M———, the quack doctor, a man with a big nose, pray do you not station a person at the end of some of the principal streets, who thrusts your dirty bills, into the hands of respectable females?” (Please to refer to some of the London papers, and you will see the particulars.) No. 3, is W———, of Portland-street, I believe the same man who was prosecuted by the Apothecaries’ Society, (see page 168 Medical Adviser.) No. 4, is Dr. Wallwork, of Peter-street, formerly of London, (see Cowdroy’s paper.) No. 5, is Dr. W———, who now calls himself Dr. Lignum; his origin was very low. He has a son living with him, a member of the college. No. 6, is Dr. W———, of Bridge-street, he calls the place where he lives Merone House.—No. 7, is a man of the name of Blease, tooth-drawer, &c., Oxford. No. 8, is Dr. B———, venereal doctor, Fountain-street. No. 9, is Dr. Cafferata, and Sons, who reside in London Road, they have an establishment in Liverpool, and another at Birmingham. No. 11, is Dickey B———, weaver, and surgeon, No. 12, is the Oldfield-lane doctor, who makes about 4,000*l.* per annum; he will leave a patient any time, to attend a horse or dog; I have known



patients offer him a guinea a visit if he would attend in the same street where he lives, but he never leaves his house to attend upon any one. He has a son, and daughter, who attend behind the counter, and it is really astonishing to see his shop, and yard, it is filthy, and crowded with patients from all parts of the country, from morning till night. We have a whole host of minor quacks, who go about the country selling worm cakes, dress ulcers, &c. I have merely sent you a rough sketch of the irregulars, please to mould it and put it in what form you like, if you think it will be of service to you.

I am Sir,

Your obedt. Servant

ANONYMOUS.

P. S. I open this letter to say, that C——, and his son, who has lately given up a practice of 600l. per annum at Knaresborough Under-line, have attended dissections, and lectures, although they are in the Oldfield-lane doctor's way. They have two or three cases to send you respecting him. The Oldfield-lane doctor, invariably tells people who can walk to consult him, (if they have any contusion about the hip,) it is out or broken, same with the shoulder, as the case happens to be.

[God help the Manchester people, we pity them. Who will hereafter credit the fact, that in this enlightened age, such a set of credulous ninnies existed in one of the largest towns of Great Britain. Manchester can boast of many first rate physicians and surgeons, yet the infatuated inhabitants prefer a set of ignorant brutes, that rob them not only of their cash, but their health.]—ED.

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*Mr. Dunkin, and Mr. Trueman.*

A LONG letter has been written to us signed J. Olives, and dated from Paradise-street, Rotherhithe, which purports to be a reply to Mr. True-

man's letter about Mr. Dunkin, inserted in a former number. It does not however, attempt to refute any thing Mr. Trueman states, but harps in a very *little* manner upon the writer, who it declares to be "a person of the name of Randal, late of the firm of Brown and Randal, of Rotherhithe," and launches into a strain too scurrilous for our taste,



#### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

##### A TELL TALE DOSE.

MR. GOBBS, citizen and common council man, is one of the many people, who, having kind and good-natured wives, take delight in plaguing them, by feigning a bad appetite. He used to make a practice of coming home just at dinner time from a walk in the city, and would sit down with a *going to die* sort of countenance, sighing, groaning, and bewailing his loss of appetite, until his wife, poor affectionate soul, would burst into tears, and give up her own dinner from pure grief, at her husband's danger. In one of these fits, she insisted upon sending for his neighbour the apothecary, who prescribed a draught, which he said was a mere refresher, and which by dint of tears and persuasion, was forced down Mr. Gobbs's throat. The invalid soon began to feel sick, presently the more powerful effects of the medicine manifested themselves, *it was an emetic*, and up came the contents of poor Mr. Gobbs's stomach, to the astonishment of his weeping wife, and to the satisfaction of his laughing apothecary. A large quantity of salmon, venison, vegetables, and cherrystones, appeared at every disgorgement, and poor Mr. Gobbs was most effectually cured of his bad appetite.



*Persian Botany.* It is a fact that the Europeans know little or nothing of Persian Botany. The Linnæan Society, we have heard, would be glad to pay the expences of a scientific botanist, who would devote a few years to studying it in the country, and thus furnish Europe with this portion of knowledge. We

think the trip would well pay such a person, as well as prove delightful. *Chemical Society.* The inauguration-lecture of this Society, delivered by Dr. Birkbeck, at the city of London Tavern, on 25th instant, was impressive and enlightened. We wish the society every success.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. P. W. take a dose of salts and drink plenty of linseed tea, with sugar and lemon acid. Write in a week.

JUSTITIA'S letter is a firm specimen of an irritated Quack's mind. We were "all and all," as long as he thought he could humbug us with the idea that Laing was not a *water taster*, but now he becomes abusive. If it be not written by Laing *himself*, it is by a very impudent meddler; before he undertook to defend "science," he should learn to write *grammatically*,—"you *was* actuated, he says"—pooh, it *must* be Laing *himself*.

ALFRED M.—. throw your friend's recipe out of the window, and take five grains of blue pill every second night, for a week—then write.

IGNORAMUS, OF MANCHESTER.—Thanks for the list of quacks, and the anecdote, which shall appear.

A. B. B.—We hope he is better, his disease of the eyes, if not arising altogether from derangement of the stomach, is at least much heightened by it. We mean to treat of the disease of the eyes very soon.

L. T. K.—If he will send an address, he shall have our advice, and we hope to relieve him. Let him read no books on the subject.

We have not received any letter about the Quack Solomon these six months. The letter must have miscarried, nor has that upon Jordan. The *tête-à-tête* between him and a patient will be acceptable.

IAGO.—Try a month's course of the tonic and digestive wine, and if the eruptions on the skin disappear, and the digestion improve, you may continue it as long as it produces benefit.

THOMAS REEVE.—If he had sent an address, he should have had an answer before. Let him purge himself well, and syringe the ear with soap suds.

J. K. L. will find a letter directed to his initials, Post Office, Leeds.

JEAN.—It is a strain of no consequence. If the pain continue, lose twenty ounces of blood from the arm.

E. E.—B.—D. E. of B, Court, Red Lion Square.—W. H. of Windsor—B. B. P. X.—J. Butterwold.—Mrs. B.—W. W. H. Essex-street, Strand.—and F. Seabaun,—shall have private letters.

Many favours are received, but too numerous to particularize.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

AND

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[EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.]

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CUTTERS, HACKERS, BLEEDERS, AND BONE-SETTERS.

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## CUTTERS, HACKERS, BLEEDERS, AND BONE-SETTERS.

THESE are the excrescences of quackery—the village ramifications of that extensively patronised calling. Under the head of *cutters*, are those fellows, who for sixpence will lame you for life by operating on your corns. *Hackers* are those more daring gentry, who will tie a cord round your tooth, fasten the other end of it to a table, and then run a red hot iron at your nose:—or if you find the blossoms of Sir Morgan O'Dogherty's *broth* in your face, will undertake to run an inch of a needle into them, (such doth our plate describe) for a pint of beer. *Bleeders* are a set who drive *vi et armis* the rusty point of a Birmingham lancet into the first and biggest vein they find in the arm, and open an *artery* as well, to please you. And the *Bonesetters*, (Lord keep us from their hands!) are a body of operators, whose ingenuity is composed in main strength: they will pull your thigh out of its socket for half a crown! Yet such men do really and *bona fide*, not only get their bread by such practices, but enjoy a vast deal of public confidence!—Respectable people will go miles to one of those fellows in the country, although in their journey, they of necessity pass two or three dozen enlightened practitioners! O, John Bull! Let the D—I get but a name and his fortune is made.

## OF RHEUMATISM.

THE characteristics of rheumatism, as assigned by Dr. Cullen, are fever, pain about the parts following the tract of the muscles, attacking the knees and larger articulations, in preference to those of the feet or hands, increased by external heat.

The disease is distinguished into the chronic and the acute; being known by the former appellation when there is no great degree either of inflammation or fever present, but

merely pains; and by the latter, when both fever and inflammation exist in a high degree.

It may arise at all times of the year, when there are frequent vicissitudes of the weather from heat to cold; but the spring and autumn are the seasons in which it is most prevalent: and it attacks persons of all ages; but very young people are more exempt from it than adults. Those whose employments subject them to alternations of heat and cold, are particularly liable to rheumatism.

Although acute rheumatism somewhat resembles the gout, still in some respects it differs from it. It does not usually come on so suddenly as a fit of the gout, but for the most part gives the patient warning by a slow and gradual increase of pain. Neither is it fixed to one spot like the gout, but is distinguished by its frequent wanderings from place to place, accompanied by a sense of numbness. It seldom attacks the small joints, but is confined chiefly to the larger, as the hip, knees, and shoulders. Acute rheumatism is generally attended with a continued fever; whereas the gout has periodical remissions. Like most of the pyrexiae, it is preceded by rigors, and a sense of cold. A febrile, quick, and hard pulse supervenes; the veins near the part affected swell; and a throbbing pain is felt in the arteries. By degrees the pain increases, and the patient suffers cruel torture, which is increased on the least motion. The sense of pain resembles that of a slow dilaceration of the parts, and commonly goes off by a swelling of the joint or joints. The rheumatism, moreover, is not preceded by dyspeptic symptoms, as is usually the case with the gout; neither do chalky concretions form about the small joints and fingers, as in the latter.

Obstructed perspiration, occasioned either by wearing wet clothes, lying in damp linen, sleeping on the ground or in damp rooms, or by being exposed to cool air when the body has been much heated by exercise, or by coming from a crowded



room or public place into the cool air, is the cause which usually produces rheumatism. Those who are much afflicted with this complaint are very apt to be sensible of the approach of wet weather, by finding wandering pains about them at that period ; in fact, some are living barometers.

The proximate cause of the acute species of the disease at least, is supposed to be an inflammation of the membranes and tendinous aponeuroses of the muscles.

Acute rheumatism usually comes on with lassitude and rigors, succeeded by heat, thirst, anxiety, restlessness, and a hard, full, and quick pulse ; the blood, when drawn from a vein, exhibits an inflammatory surface upon cooling, and the tongue preserves a steady whiteness ; after a short time excruciating pains are felt in different parts of the body, but more particularly in the joints of the shoulders, wrists, knees, and ancles, or perhaps in the hip ; and these keep shifting from one joint to another, leaving a redness and swelling in every part they have occupied, as likewise a great tenderness to the touch. Towards evening there is usually an exacerbation or increase of fever, and during the night the pains become more severe, and shift from one joint to another.

Sometimes the pain is confined to a few joints ; in other cases it affects many at the same time. In no disease do we meet with such remarkable instances of metastasis, and no muscular part is exempted from the pain. The internal muscles, as the diaphragm and heart, have been said to be sometimes affected with metastasis. In these translations of rheumatic inflammation, the stomach is also sometimes attacked. The pain is met with in every degree of violence, and is highly aggravated by pressure or motion. The face in general is not flushed, there is seldom much headach, and in most cases there seems to be little tendency to delirium. The stomach generally is not affected, but the bowels are usually costive.

Early in the course of the disease some degree of sweating usually oc-

curs ; but it seldom removes the pains, or proves either salutary or critical ; and it is somewhat singular that the pained limbs remain dry, when a sweat is on the rest of the body. In the beginning the urine is without any sediment ; but as the disease advances in its progress, and the fever admits of considerable remissions, a lateritious sediment is deposited ; but neither does this prove critical.

Chronic rheumatism is attended with pains in the head, shoulders, knees, and other large joints, which at times are confined to one particular part, and at others shift from one joint to another without occasioning any inflammation or fever ; and in this manner the complaint continues often for a considerable time, and at length goes off, leaving the parts which have been affected in a state of debility, and very liable to fresh impressions on the approach of moist damp weather.

Little danger is attendant on chronic rheumatism : but a person having once been attacked with it, is ever afterwards more or less liable to returns of it, and an incurable ankylosis is sometimes formed in consequence of very frequent relapses. Neither is the acute rheumatism often accompanied with much danger, as it usually goes off spontaneously, or is removed by the timely employment of proper remedies ; but in some instances the patient has been destroyed by general inflammation, and now and then by a metastasis to some vital part, such as the head, lungs, heart, and stomach. Many cases of cardiac inflammation are indeed either combined or alternated with acute rheumatism. It has been observed, that persons subject to rheumatism are attacked more frequently than others with symptoms of an organic disease in the heart ; and that in some instances the lungs have been much affected with severe dyspnoea, no doubt from the disease being translated to these parts, occasioning real inflammation of these organs. When retrocession actually occurs, there is no safety until the disease is removed, and the prognosis ought



therefore to be very guarded indeed. Acute rheumatism, although accompanied with a considerable degree of inflammation in particular parts, has seldom been known to terminate in suppuration; but a serous or gelatinous effusion sometimes takes place.

A general, but not unnaturally profuse perspiration, the deposit of a lateritious or furfuraceous sediment in the urine, eruptions on the skin, or moderate hæmorrhage of blood from the nose or other parts, may be regarded as favourable symptoms; whereas the inflammation becoming erysipelatous, and assuming a dark red or rose colour, and this followed by vesications, metastasis of the inflammation to the head, chest, or abdominal viscera, producing the symptoms of the idiopathic diseases of these organs, are to be looked upon as unfavourable.

Rheumatism seldom proving fatal, very few opportunities have offered for dissections of the disease. In the few which have occurred, the same appearances have been observed as those mentioned under the head inflammatory fever. In the joints, thickening of the membranes, adhesions, and gelatinous effusions, are the only phenomena to be met with.

The principal thing to be attended to in the treatment of acute rheumatism, is to obviate the general inflammation which prevails, and this is to be effected by strictly pursuing an antiphlogistic regimen, and by blood letting in all cases where the vascular action is strong, the constitution robust, and the heat considerable, proportioning the quantity we take away to the violence of the symptoms, and the age, strength, and habit of the patient. If the pains continue very severe, and the pulse full, hard, and quick, after bleeding, and the blood appears very sizzly on becoming cool, we may with great propriety repeat the operation either on the same day or the next; but this mode of proceeding should be adopted only at an early period of the disease. The reduction of vascular action is, however, more particularly to regulate the repeti-

tion, than the buffy appearance of the blood, which in many cases continues to increase, notwithstanding the abstraction of blood, and is not diminished by bleeding. This circumstance should be attended to. To repeat bleeding until the pulse be reduced to 100 or a little below, may be a good rule.

In weak irritable habits, where no great degree of general inflammation prevails, and little or no fever attends, and where the inflammation is chiefly local, or the pain not violent, topical bleeding, by means of several leeches applied to the part affected, may be substituted instead of using the lancet, and will often be found to afford essential relief. Moreover, they are not attended with the risk of causing translations of the disease. They may likewise be used with benefit where much inflammation prevails in the system, as well as in particular parts, provided that some general bleeding has been premised or adopted. When leeches cannot be procured, scarifying and cupping may be employed in their stead.

It has been usual in acute rheumatism to rely principally on large and repeated bleedings at an early period, joined with an antiphlogistic regimen; and no doubt this evacuant plan of treatment has in some cases been carried to excess, and produced an alarming degree of debility. Having reflected much on this circumstance, and well considered the wonderful power which the digitalis possesses of diminishing the action of the heart and arteries, I have employed it in some severe cases of acute rheumatism after one or two bleedings from the system, and with much apparent advantage; for I found that its use rendered any further repetition of venesection unnecessary. In the instances to which I allude, from ten to twenty drops of its tincture were given every four or six hours.

In case of costiveness prevailing, one or two evacuations should be procured daily by making use of some gentle cooling purgative, such as the neutral salts, or by giving laxative clysters, which may be the



preferable way when the disease is general and violent, as the motion occasioned by frequently getting up to stool would prove irksome and painful to the patient.

Where the pain is chiefly confined to one part, and is unaccompanied by much inflammation, the application of a blister will be likely to prove serviceable, or we may rub it with some kind of rubefacient liniment; but where the pains are wandering, and there are frequent translations from one joint to another, neither of these remedies will be of much use. In acute rheumatism, warm fomentations ought never to be employed, as they are found to aggravate the pains instead of alleviating them.

Where, on the sudden subsidence of the external pain and inflammation, the head, heart, lungs, or stomach are attacked, so as to endanger the life of the patient, blisters should always be applied near those parts where the disease had originally existed, their power of counter-irritation being useful on such an occasion. Their action being however very slow, it might be justifiable in such cases, as well as in gouty metastases, to substitute the external application of nitric acid, in the manner mentioned to have been practised of late in the cholera morbus, which prevailed in Hindostan.

When any of the joints of the extremities swell very much, and are highly painful, we may, besides drawing blood from the part by means of leeches, make use of attenuating cataplasms, such as the cataplasma farinæ compositum of the Pharmacopœia Chirurgica, the ingredients of which, being wrought into a paste with hot water, are to be wrapped round the part affected, and to be renewed morning and evening.

The reduction of heat by keeping linen cloths wetted in cold water, or in a solution of muriated ammonia, with the nitrate of potass, constantly to the inflamed parts, may, I think, be adopted with safety and much advantage in acute rheumatism, although in gout the remedy ought

certainly to be looked on as hazardous. During the summer of 1807 I visited Russia for a few months, and understood that the physicians there are in the habit of recommending the application of snow or pounded ice, in cases of this nature, and often with a very good effect.

When rheumatic inflammation is local and stationary, the aid of cold applications, or of the evaporating treatment with camphor mixture, conjoined either with alcohol or æther, made tepid, will be likely to prove very beneficial; but when the inflammation quickly wanders from one part to another, almost eluding our pursuit, we must rely more confidently on constitutional means, and make our local treatment accordingly both more subservient and considerate.

After the necessary evacuations have been made, diaphoretics may then be used; and those of the antimonial kind may be prescribed in small and frequently repeated doses, or from ten to fifteen grains of the pulvis ipecacuanhæ compositus may be given every three or four hours. This indeed appears to be the best sudorific we can exhibit in acute rheumatism. Volatiles are employed by some practitioners in the cure of rheumatism, for the purpose of exciting a diaphoresis. With the same view camphor has been likewise administered. They may be given separately, or be combined together, should the remedies before recommended not prove sufficiently powerful. To increase the effect of all these medicines, the patient should at the same time be enveloped in flannel, every article of linen being removed; and as soon as he begins to sweat, and not before, lest vomiting be induced, he ought to drink freely of diluents, such as herb tea, barley-water, and wine whey.

As an auxiliary remedy, warmth applied to the extremities, especially to the affected parts, is of some consequence. It may be employed either in the form of fomentations, or in a dry one, by warm bottles, or bricks wrapped in flannel.



Sweating is an evacuation which is resorted to very generally both in the acute and chronic rheumatism, and in many instances with very essential benefit; but it has its inconveniences, for sometimes it comes out freely without producing any good effect, and when long continued it relaxes the skin, and makes the patient very susceptible of cold afterwards: to guard against which, it will be necessary for him to be confined to his chamber, and to wear a flannel shirt for some time.

In the early stage of the disease it is desirable to procure perspiration by diaphoretics of the antimonial kind, or the compound powder of ipecacuanha joined to saline medicines, and in some cases material relief has been obtained thereby. If, however, obvious benefit does not ensue within forty-eight hours, we ought then to discontinue the use of diaphoretics as being more likely to do injury than good. Every local means to increase perspiration ought also after this period to be avoided, whether by a use of flannels, hot applications to the painful parts, or the warm bath. Instead of them, linen cloths dipped in camphor mixture and cold water may be applied.

Opiates combined with camphor are given by many practitioners in acute rheumatism: but such a compound is not likely to prove efficacious; and the best way of administering opium in this disease when the pain is considerable, is by using the pulvis ipecacuanhæ compositus, as has just been mentioned, or by giving it combined with antimony. Other narcotics, such as conium, hyoscyamus, aconitum, and digitalis, are sometimes employed with seeming advantage after the bowels have been freely evacuated.

### THEORY OF ORGANIC DISEASE, &c. &c.

[We have great pleasure in laying before our readers the observations of Dr. Venables on organic disease, because we believe the opinions

therein contained throw a light upon the theory of indigestion—that key-stone of English disease.]  
—ED.

“ORGANIC disease has been defined, ‘disease attended with such change of structure as is apparent on dissection after death.’ It has been found necessary thus to limit the signification of the expression ‘organic disease,’ to exclude merely functional disorder. To suppose that an organ can be functionally deranged, without a corresponding change in its structure, would be to imagine an effect without a cause,—an idea wholly at variance with every principle of reasoning, physical or metaphysical. If healthy structure produce certain motions or effects, can we suppose any deviation in these motions, without corresponding changes in the organization which excites them? However, a serious change in function may take place without any very remarkable alteration in the actual structure of the organ. The structure of some parts of the animal organization is so very fine and delicate, that minute alterations are not readily cognizable to our senses, even when aided by the most powerful means of examination. ‘We cannot doubt, however,’ says Wilson Philip, ‘that there is a change of structure in the finer parts of our mechanism, which leaves no traces to be detected after death. Thus we have seen, that in those who have long been exposed to causes of great nervous irritation, the function of the brain and spinal marrow sometimes fails. The usual stimulants cease to produce their accustomed effects. This, at first, is only occasional, and the organs soon resume their usual functions; pointing out, that, however their action has been oppressed, their mechanism is still entire, and has, if disordered at all, only been temporarily so: but, by degrees, the diseased state becomes more permanent, and, at length, sometimes ends in that species of palsy, or apoplexy, in which, although the permanent inability proves, dissec-



tion cannot always detect, change of structure.'

"Hence, then, it has been necessary to confine the meaning of organic disease to those permanent changes of structure, which, from their degree and extent, are readily cognizable on dissection after death. Such a change involves the whole of the component structure of the organ. Before, however, such a change as is comprehended in the above definition can take place, considerable derangement, both of structure and function, must be observable.

"Mr. Abernethy distinguishes between what has been termed mere functional derangement, arising from nervous irritation, and that more severe degree which involves a greater extent of structure. 'Previous to the history of the case,' he observes, 'I shall add a few observations as to the different meaning of the words disorder and disease, which I believe have been generally used indifferently, being considered as synonymous. When I first published these observations, I then wished to have defined the terms, and to employ them strictly according to the meaning I should attach to them; but I forbore doing it, thinking it might be construed into mere affectation. Disorder, I should define to be an unhealthy state of the feelings or functions of parts, without any apparent alteration of structure; and disease, a visible alteration in the appearance or structure of the affected part: disorder is nervous; disease is the effect of vascular actions, excited by nervous disorder; an organ may become diseased to a certain degree, and yet, disorder ceasing, its feelings and functions may be natural and healthy; yet disease must have a tendency to establish disorder.'

"The definition which Mr. Abernethy here gives of disease, so far qualifies its meaning, as to exclude from its comprehension 'organic affections,' in the usual acceptation. Organic disease expresses not only such a change of structure as impedes or perverts the natural func-

tions of the organ, but such a general alteration in the entire mechanism, as wholly unfits it for its proper purposes in the animal economy, and renders it a permanent source of irritation and disturbance.

"Then the animal mechanism may be considered susceptible of three degrees of change: the first consisting in such a change as has been generally named irritation, and which Mr. Abernethy has termed disorder; the second degree comprehends those changes which are the result of the less severe inflammatory affections, and which, perhaps may be termed disease; the third change includes those alterations which render the structure itself worse than useless, for it becomes a perpetual source of irritation, and generally speaking, ultimately proves fatal.

"*Of the first change in the animal mechanism, or functional disorder.*—

The first alteration of structure is either in itself so minute, or takes place in the ultimate particles, and which are placed beyond the powers of our perception, that its nature is in no way cognizable to our senses. It is only to be inferred from the effects, which are generally sensible. This alteration has been commonly referred to the nervous structure. We perceive certain deviations from healthy function, and we declare these to be owing to nervous irritation. The excitability of the nervous, like that of the heart and vascular system, depends upon the quality of the blood. The blood was formerly considered as the appropriate stimulus of the heart. It was supposed that when an animal was suffocated, the heart ceased to contract, because black blood was not a sufficient stimulus to the ventricle. Physiologists did not then reflect that the right ventricle propelled, and that the pulmonary arteries circulated black or dark-coloured blood. No doubt the left ventricle circulates red blood. It is from the left ventricle that the substance of the heart itself is supplied. The left side of the heart would unquestionably circulate dark-coloured blood, if the coronary



arteries were supplied with red blood. In the quality of the blood then resides the principle of excitability. This we may infer from the fact, that the life and excitability of a part ceases the moment its substance is supplied with dark-coloured instead of red blood. As in the quality of the blood depends excitability, may we not logically infer, that any alteration in the physical or chemical constitution of this fluid will, in a corresponding degree, increase or diminish the excitability. Of this fact we have daily proof. We observe that the heart and other structures are preternaturally excited, when the blood exhibits the buffy coat. In pregnant women, the blood becomes seriously changed, and in proportion as this change is more evident, the irritation arising from pregnancy becomes more conspicuous. Wine, and other intoxicating liquors, seem to act by altering the qualities of the blood from mechanical admixture; thus increasing the excitability of the heart, which propels an increased quantity of blood through the brain in a given time.

“If these views be admissible, the minutest changes in the blood will be attended with sensible effects on the ultimate principles of our structure; and thus motions are obvious, the causes of which are beyond the limits of our perception. It is not an object of great moment, whether we refer the phenomena to the nervous, or other parts of our system. Every part of our structure is so intimately connected, that it is difficult, nay, even impossible, to say whether derangement can be purely nervous or purely vascular. We speak of the ‘*vasa vasorum*,’ and may we not with equal propriety consider the ‘*nervi nervorum*?’ We can hardly distinguish between the vascular and nervous structure of the elementary principles of our composition.

“Nervous irritation, then, evidently depends upon changes similar to what have just been described, however minute their nature and degree, however confined their extent. This deviation is manifested

in the first instance by deranged function. Thus we find the liver secreting a black, a green, or an acrid bile. The stomach, instead of its ordinary and healthy gastric juice, secretes an acid liquor, of a highly offensive quality.

(To be Continued.)

## THE SPECTRAL ILLUSIONS OF HYPOCHONDRIACS.

(From *Hibbert on Apparitions*.)

NOT unfrequently a partial and irregular state of nervous irritability acts in concurrence with highly-excited conditions of certain temperaments. This gives rise, in very sanguine or melancholic constitutions, to the symptoms of hypochondrism. The irregular action of those nerves, upon which the production of external impressions and the renovated feelings of the mind depends, is indicated by false affections communicated to the organs of sense, particularly to those of touch. Hence the imaginary diseases of which hypochondriacs suppose they are the subject, as well as the ideal transformation of the texture of their bodies into such substances as glass, lead, or feathers. At the same time, the irregular action of other nerves, concerned in the processes of assimilation, is productive of the usual morbid state which take place of the digestive organs. Burton has summed up the extravagances of hypochondriacs in a few words:—“Humorous are they beyond all measure, they feigne many absurdities voide of reason; one supposes himself to be a dog, cock, beare, horse, glass, butter, &c. He is a giant, a dwarfe, as strong as a hundred men, a lord, duke, prince, &c. And if he be told he hath a stinking breath, a great nose, that he is sick, or inclined to such and such a disease, he beleeveth it eftsoones, and by force of imagination will worke it out.” It is useless to dwell much longer upon this disease, as no spectral impressions occur in it, which have not been described in the chapter that treated of the illusions of



mania or melancholia. I might perhaps mention, that the quality of such phantasies not unfrequently harmonizes with any false conceit that may prevail, the theory of which will be an object of future investigation. This circumstance is not unaptly described in Brewer's old comedy of *Lingua*:—

“Lately I came from fine Phantaste's house.—

No sooner had I parted out of doors,  
But up I held my hands before my face,  
To shield mine eyes from the light's  
piercing beams;

When I protest I saw the sun as clear,  
Through these my palms, as through a  
perspective:

No marvel; for when I beheld my fingers,  
I saw my fingers were transformed to  
glass;

Opening my breast, my breast was like a  
window,

Through which I plainly did perceive my  
heart:

In whose two conclaves I discerned my  
thoughts

Confus'dly lodged in great multitudes.”

### CAUSE OF BALDNESS.

BALDNESS is evidently caused by the relaxation of the matter in which the roots of the hair are imbedded; and this is another argument in favour of our hypothesis in the cause of grey hair. General relaxation is the consequence of debility; hence, fever oftener produces baldness than any thing else. Oils, therefore, we consider totally useless, unless the head be scurfy. Ardent spirits is the best application, for it tends to contract, and for this reason Eau de Cologne is used. From these observations it will appear evident that sharp brushes should not be used with hair that is beginning to fall off.

*Why New-born Infants do not see for some time after their Birth.*

M. PETIT, who has in a more particular manner examined into the structure of the eye, discovered that

the cornea in all new-born infants was considerably thicker than in the adult, it being in them a line thick, and often not above half a quarter of a line thick in the adult: their cornea besides being thick, is also wrinkled, owing to the small quantity of aqueous humour, which in them does not weigh above a grain and a half, whereas in the adult it weighs from five to five and a half grains: the defect of vision in all new-born infants is therefore owing to the thickness and wrinkling of their cornea, together with the want of a sufficient quantity of the aqueous humour, to keep it duly extended.

M. Petit having examined for six weeks successively the eyes of new-born infants, observed that the cornea became every day more convex, smoother and more glossy, which he attributed to the daily increase of the aqueous humour, which has duly extended the cornea, rendering it both more convex and thinner; the pupil also he observed became more capable of dilating and contracting itself; and as more rays of light did pass every day to the retina, this gradually acquired a more firm texture, and of course became more sensible of the impressions made on it; vision therefore became gradually more perfect.

M. Petit further observed, that all new-born infants' eyes do not equally and in the same given time acquire that convexity and glossiness requisite for perfect vision: for some he observed acquired it in a month, others not before five or six weeks, this depending in a great measure on the vigour and strength of the child, and force of the circulation of his blood, whereby the aqueous humor is secreted in a quantity sufficient to extend the cornea, so as to suffer a sufficient number of rays to pass on to the retina to perform vision.

M. Petit made the like experiments on the eyes of most of the new-born quadrupeds; he is of opinion, that all new-born quadrupeds, whose eyes are open at their birth, or remain closed for some days, are in the same condition with new-born infants, i. e. do not see for



some time after their birth, owing to the same cause.

In the course of this inquiry, upon dissecting a calf's eye, he happened to discover that the crystalline was opake; this surprised him a good deal; in order to clear up this matter to himself, he went to the veal-market, where he examined above two hundred live calfs' heads, to see if their crystalines were opake, but with all his researches he never could discover one that was opake: upon reflecting with himself what could be the reason of this phenomenon, he happened by chance to hold in his hand one of those opake crystalines; he was surprized to find it soon became transparent; willing to discover the cause of this sudden change in the color of this crystalline, he laid it on his bureau, where it soon became as opake as it was at first; he brought it after to the fire; it presently recovered its transparency; he often repeated the same experiment, the result was always the same; from whence he concluded that the crystalline is never opake in any new-born animal.

M. Petit, to support his reasonings concerning the defect of vision in new-born infants, subjoined the history of a gentleman, who consulted him about a defect in one of his eyes; this gentleman could distinguish the light well enough, but could not the objects. M. Petit could discover nothing exteriorly in the eye; but upon comparing it with the well eye, he found it to be less convex; upon this he concluded, that the defect was owing to the wrinkling or corrugation of the cornea, from a diminution of the aqueous humor, proceeding from an obstruction of its secretory canals, joined perhaps to too great a stricture of the fibres of the cornea; accordingly, he ordered him a collyrium, wherein some nitre was dissolved, which by diluting the obstructing matter, and relaxing at the same time the fibres of the cornea, soon restored him to his sight, and as evidently shewed, that the defect in his eye was owing to the want of the necessary convexity in the cor-

nea from a diminution of the aqueous humor.

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*A Negress had a White Child.*

(From the Transactions of the French Academy.)

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M. HELVETIUS informed the Academy, that some ten months before the account he had from Surinam was wrote, a negress was delivered of a white child well formed, but with all the features of a black, and even their woolly kind of hair, which here was as white as snow, and though exposed to the sun, never changed color: the white of his eyes was uncommonly white; the iris was of a flame color, speckled here and there with some whitish lines; the pupil was likewise of a fiery red color; he could not open his eyes in the sun, but would in other places, and could see where others could not; when he looked stedfastly at any object, both the iris and pupil seemed to turn rapidly round their own centre. And then the child seemed eagerly to look for and have a desire for something: he had the piam, a disorder peculiar to the Ethiopians.

The question now was, who could be the father; it could not be a black, though the mother positively affirmed the father was a black; it is known, that the children of all the blacks are born white, to the top of the penis, and roots of the nails of their hands; but in a few days after their birth, they become black; the child of a negress and a white is born red, by which they are known; but this child remained white ten months after he was born, and after all his father could not be an European white; for were it so, he could not have the features and woolly hair of a black. Besides, the mother who was before delivered of a mulatto, a child between a black woman and a white man, would not conceal the father of her second child, for the negresses look upon it as an honor to have commerce with a white man, and they never omit boasting of it.

In some voyages to the coast of



Africa, there is mention made of a colony of some white men, that live among the blacks; it is further observed, that they are weak-sighted, and for that reason never come out but at night; the blacks do not look upon them as men; they therefore pursue them as they do wild beasts; this child seems to have some resemblance to those men: what seemed to confirm this conjecture is, that some old blacks brought from the coast of Guinea, related that they saw several white children in their country, where the white men never go; but that their chief had them all put to death; it is easy to conceive how an African white might meet with a negress in Africa, but the difficulty will be to find such a one in America; it is true that some pretend there are those kind of white men in America, but who has seen them?

In 1744, the child of a negro and a negress about five years old, and born in Macondi in America, was brought before the academy; this like the former was perfectly white, with all the features of a black, all to his woolly hair and eye brows, which were white: his eyes likewise constantly rolled in their sockets, and by exposing them to the light in a certain manner, the pupil appeared of a bright red, as did the choroides, he is weak-sighted like the other, the skin of his hands is rough, but smooth elsewhere; several travellers relate that there is an entire nation of such white men not far from Mexico, who cannot bear the full light of the day, without great uneasiness: the only difference is, that in the place of a woolly hair, they have a natural, though white hair.

M. Cossigny, correspondent of the academy affirmed, that in the island of Madagascar, there was a colony of those white-men, with all the features of the blacks, but with hair like the Europeans.

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\*\*\* Thus much for the lately reported "extraordinary birth."

## OBSERVATION ON THE NERVES.

To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.

SIR,

PERMIT me to make some further remarks on the theory of the nerves, or rather the *nervous fluid* in the nerves. Notwithstanding we are not able at first, as in most novel theories, to found it upon correct principles, it may ere long be fully elucidated. The nerves, although generally considered by anatomists to be *small white cords*, yet some favour the opinion of their being *small white tubes*. Therefore may not the exact sympathy of the nerves with the motion and state of the blood greatly support the idea of fine fluid flowing through them, similar to the crimson current in the veins and arteries; and as nature adopts the means of circulation for the important distribution of the vital stream of life, she may very reasonably employ the same exquisite means in propagating sensation. All her sublime works are carried on by a kind of circulation or some regular motion. Her regulating motion wheels the planets in their orbits. Indeed motion is the vitality of nature.

In attempting to prove from a simple fact the circulation of this *nervous fluid*, let us mark the effect of a *tight ligature* kept on some time in any limb or member of the body. The flowing of the blood now being stopped, below the part tied the sensation of feeling is also in a great measure arrested. Now, if the nerves were only *white cords*, their mere extension or existence even in a compressed state below the ligature would be sufficient to communicate feeling; but this notion is directly contradicted by the nerves becoming numbed by compression. Hence it follows from this idea that the mere extension of the nerves to all parts of the body without their passages are left open, cannot communicate feeling any more than the mere extension of the arteries and veins can spread vitality without blood.

JÉAN.





## ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

### Second General Meeting of the NEW COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS.

(Concluded from our last.)

Dr. ——— had one word to add, he merely wished to say, that in the event of purchasing the “Medical Adviser,” he would be happy to have the printing of it, as he kept a press in his house, and it would be done reasonable; he also hoped that whatever member should be chosen to edit the work, he would appropriate four pages for the advertisements of the members, and six to attacks upon all regular medical practitioners—(loud applause followed this *addendum* of Dr. E. and he sat down highly delighted.)

Dr. ——— “Gentlemen, I fear that the sanguine expectations of some of my learned friends, as it respects that atrocious publication, will not be realized; I am of opinion that the disease has already made such progress as to be incurable. How can we hope to neutralize the poison which has been spread from the Land’s-end to John o’Groat’s house. It is true that it would be greatly to our interest to make the work an organ of retaliation on the *Guinea men*, especially that murderer of our peace Burnett; yet notwithstanding the way he has shown me up, (as he audaciously calls it) I bear him no enmity, all the injury I would wish him, is that he had a couple of double drastic worm pills (my twelve pounders as I call them) in his gizzard; for if he had, I’ll warrant you he would not cry quack much longer, (*great laughter*) no, no, gentlemen, it would be another tune—it would be *piccavi*; (*continued laughter*) for the benefit of some of my hearers, I

will translate that Latin word; it is I will not *pick* at you any more, (*applause*.) Gentlemen, I must be brief, for the few patients I have left are waiting for me. For my own part, if I thought that any good could arise from putting an extinguisher on that publication by converting it to our own use, I should be glad to bear my part; but to do this I must sell my little freehold in St. Leonard’s Church Yard; for as things go on this way, one had better provide a “best bed room” at St. Luke’s; (*hear! hear!*) and as to my Museum of Wonders in Shore-ditch, I suppose I must get the Parliament to buy it, and then it will be called the *Gardinerian Museum*; (*bravo*) in truth, it is only fit to look at now; for Burnett has taken away all its utility: such is the state of things, that perhaps I and my old woman may be, alas! in a workhouse, (*hear! hear!*) When I called Burnett’s book a murderous publication, I was fully justified in what I said, and the *College* will coincide with me, when I tell them that since our last meeting, we have lost one of our ablest fellows; I allude, gentlemen, to the death of Dr. Brodum; it was certainly caused by the infamous libels of the *Medical Adviser*, (*loud cries of hear!*) Yes, gentlemen, our dear departed friend never lifted up his head again after his “shewing up,” (*hear! hear!*) It is high time to put a stop to that cruel work, but as I said before, I have my doubts as to the plan proposed, yet I confess I know of no other remedy; all I can say, I wish you success in your laudable design; and now I am done gentlemen, I wish you all good night, for I must be off.”—This learned doctor then left the room.

Drs. ——— and ——— were both unfortunately again in opposition to each other; the former was determined not to give way this time to his rival; it was in vain that the President begged ——— to give way. No, said he, I am the oldest water taster in London, and I will be heard first, in spite of that puppy who has been opposing me these eight years. To this ———



retorted with equal warmth, and at length the altercation rose to such a pitch, as to threaten a pugilistic set-to between these two renowned rivals int he hydro-vesical mysteries; in the midst of all this it was impossible to collect any of the expressions of these learned doctors; the President cried order, and almost every other person that of (*chair! chair! adjourn!*) until it became a perfect uproar; after they had continued nearly ten minutes, the President declared that it was so late that no other Fellow could be heard on that occasion, he would therefore put the resolutions which had been proposed to the meeting. They were then put and carried unanimously.

The Resolutions were as follows:

“Resolved, that negotiations be opened for the purchase of the copy-right of the Medical Adviser.”

“Resolved that a Subscription be opened to aid that object.”

“Resolved that Taylor and Son be requested to act as Treasurers.”

“Resolved that these Resolutions be inserted in the S— M—, and to promote the object—

“Resolved that the thanks of the College be given to Dr. Courtenay for his able conduct in the Chair.”

The meeting then separated.

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*Mr. Dunkin and Mr. Trueman.*

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*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

BEING a general reader of your publication, I am greatly annoyed with a variety of letters written by the above names; what their meaning can be, it is impossible to form a direct conclusion. As to myself they appear to me to be jealous of each other, if so, why not be like men, come face to face, not to write under fictitious names. Mr. D. takes upon himself with a yard of cloth to answer Tom Trueman's letter in so direct a way of his capability of practising as apothecary, and claims to himself the priority of having been in practice before

the Act of 1815, of having walked the hospitals and attended the lectures; if so, he need not have explained himself in such terms, as the public would be quite satisfied without such stuff. Pray then Mr. D. are you a surgeon, can you bleed or draw teeth, that is the minor operations in the art of surgery? Pray do not be down-hearted, as I mean to assist you with all my mind, and upset the idea of that Tom Trueman, who I suppose calls himself a surgeon; but let him act as such, and not call in question the character of a fellow-practitioner so as to heighten himself at the expence of another. O Tommy that wont do, we can play put, and pinch for pinch; you have a great many friends no doubt, and so has poor T. Dunkin. I trust this will bring things to a conclusion, and let the readers of the Medical Adviser have something of more importance than surgeons quarrelling about patients. Mr. D. gives advice to the poor at a few individuals expence, and they find relief; I do not see why Tom Trueman should interfere, if he wants assistance in that way, we will see what we can do for him.

In reading your publication of last week, I find that T. Olives of Rotherhithe, wrote a reply to Mr. Trueman's letter, but being too scurrilous to insert, probably you could favour us with part; who is T. Olives? what is he? where does he come from, or from whence sprung? Be careful in your writing. T. Olives, you have too many to fight against.

ROBENS.

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MANCHESTER MEDICALS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

FIRST on the list of pretenders stands the notorious C—a. The den of this dragon is pointed out to the public, by a brass plate on the door, with this truly modest inscription:—“Dr. C—a and Sons,



sole Proprietors of all the New Discoveries in Medicine!!!” There’s for you! Turn your emulation into some other channel; make no more vain pretensions to new discoveries, ye countless sons of Esculapius: all power of effecting improvements in the important study of medicine has been conferred by nature on the thrice-lucky doctor C——a and his hopeful progeny. The brood of this monopolizing dragon, for the curse of this generation, are so numerous, that he has been able to station one son at Liverpool, another at Birmingham, a third at Bristol, and others in other large towns, to prey on the vitals of their victims. Will you beg of some of your other correspondents to look after these various ramifications. I shall do every thing in my power to rid the Manchester den of the parent inmates. “We meet again,” friend C——a.

The next I shall introduce to your notice, is Doctor L——m. Thousands of times must you have seen his classical name in print. The original cognomen of this well-fed quack was W——d, as I am informed. Whether he was led to translate it into Latin, with the hope of more securely sheltering himself from the nauseous notoriety it had acquired, or as my Latin Grammar says, *euphoniæ gratia*, in order the better to gull the credulous, I cannot pretend to say. I leave it to you and the public to conjecture. This same W——d, alias L——m, professes to have a remedy, (never-failing of course) for all sorts of eruptions, to whatever class they may belong. I wish an eruption of public indignation would speedily sweep him and his pestilential nostrums into the oblivion they merit. When will the dreaming people of this country open their eyes, and see by what contemptible creatures they suffer themselves to be led by the nose! It may be worth while to remark that this famous anti-scorbutic consists of a solution of the muriate of mercury in coloured spirits. You may go for the present, Master L——m, but be in readiness, I have a flagellation for you still in reserve.

Make way for Sam M——s. Who would imagine to see Sam strut along the streets of Manchester, but a few years ago was dragging a cart at his tail in his uncle’s service, who serves the *regulars* with second-hand or washed bottles, and other ware of that description. This *quondam* porter now writes doctor to his name! Beware Sam, the cart may yet return thy kindness, and drag thee at its tail. Sam offers to cure Venereal in all its stages in five days. Itch in an hour, by *smelling*, with a long *et cetera*, equally curious; too long to particularize.

But I must content myself at present with merely naming a few more of the fraternity. We have Messrs. W——k (admirable appellation!) B——e (would he were under the Beetle’s hands.) B——d (a very vulture.) W——n has certainly nothing to do with divine legations.) W——r (a pretty web the spider is weaving.) T——r (more fit for the shopboard than the surgery.) L——d, and the Lord knows who besides; a host for whom a single enumeration will not suffice: all, by their own account never-failing curers of all the diseases by which the human frame can be afflicted. How stupid must my fellow townsmen be to suffer sickness or pain to remain a moment longer in any of their habitations. If people were not so amazingly good-natured as to die now and then, in spite of these friendly offers, we should have the undertakers bringing actions against this band of worthies, for depriving them of the means of producing a subsistence, by the exercise of their lawful callings.

For the amusement of your readers, I shall conclude this communication with a pleasant anecdote, relative to two of the Manchester doctors. The spirit of rivalry prevails even among these disinterested labourers. They do not verify the proverb, that there is union even among thieves. Doctor B——’s venereal placards having become so thick on the walls, as to offend the eyes of our friend Sam M——s, Sam magnanimously hired a fellow to



deface them with mud. Doctor B——'s sagacity was not slow to discover who was at the bottom of this dirty work, and his wrath vented itself in the shape of a caricature of Sam in his dandy trim, and with his hatchet nose, sharp enough to split a north-easter. Sam retorted. So that our walls have really become almost too offensive for any modest woman to venture to cast an eye on them. Is there no remedy for these gross outrages on decency and common sense? Are rascals to fill every public place with their filthy abominations with impunity? I wish heaven in its mercy, would send us an Hercules to cleanse this Augean Stable.

SCIPIO.

Manchester, Dec. 2, 1824.



### MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

*A late Negro Birth.*—The papers of this week have reported the case of a negress, who was delivered of three

children; one white one, one mulatto, and one a black. The report has arisen, no doubt, from the partial variations of the color, but it is not to the extent they say. It should be recollected that all *African children are white, or nearly so, when born.*

*Example to Druggists.*—We are happy to see that one house has set a proper example to the trade as regards the sale of oxalic acid. Messrs. Titterton and Co., of No. 10, St. Martin's Le Grand, advertise upon their window that they sell *no oxalic acid*. This is the best remedy against fatal mistakes, and we recommended the adoption of the measure in a former number.

*Teeth.*—There is a dentist at Bourdeaux, of the name of La Paix, who has in his possession 250,000 human teeth—as many as are contained in the heads of 10,000 people!

*Discovery.*—Heartsoker, a Dutchman, who made optical glasses by accident, when eighteen years of age, threw a glass wire into the fire, which he found soon blistered, and formed thereby a kind of microscope, which magnified objects considerably. It was with this instrument, that he made that bold discovery of *Animalculæ in semine masculino*.

*Inventor of the Air Pump.*—Guercke, invented the air pump, at Magdeburg, in the year 1640.

### THE NIGHT-MARE.

Nocturnal hag of the frightful stud,  
Whose course lies deep in the circling blood,  
What horrors dire  
Thine eyes inspire;  
But thy touch paralyzeth life's warm flood.  
Oft sinking 'twixt sleep and wake I've lain,  
And felt thy insidious stealthy train  
Their charm cast o'er\*,  
The pulse 'twould lower,  
And my heart feel the pow'r of thy dreadful reign.  
Desp'rate I'd struggle to banish thee,  
And heavy my heart beat when first set free;  
Then deep the gush,  
And wild the rush,  
Of the blood through each vacuous artery.

G. M. C.

\* This alludes to a seducing and overwhelming sinking and drowsiness which, under wakeful circumstances, never fails to precede this annoying visitant, but which may, by a slight effort on its first approach, be readily shaken off; but if momentarily indulged, like the enticing and benumbing torpors of the north, you inevitably fall its victim.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Doctor" Courtenay is going to law with us. Our cause is **THE CAUSE OF THE PUBLIC**; we therefore request our Readers to transmit us all the information upon his *practice* in their power. Mr. Martin Bree *could* oblige us; Nettlerash, W. W., and H. A. *have*, and we hope *will* oblige us further.

A. W. S. our Correspondent of last January, will *infinitely oblige us* by saying where we can see or address him.

**RUFUS.**—A leaden comb acts upon the hair merely by friction, not absorption. It colours the hair externally.

**CAPUT.**—A remedy for scurf on the head next week.

\* \* \*. It is not as he says "a rising of the lights," but a spasmodic affection. If he wish advice, let him detail his case more fully, and send an address.

**AN ORIGINAL SUBSCRIBER.** You should not give four-ounces of calomel to the lady at one dose; the blue pill was right. We are glad to find she is better. Discontinue the bark, and give the elixir of vitriol with water. The blue pill might be given every third night. If necessary to write again, send some address.

**SCRUTATOR** is thanked.

**J. R. W. Q.** of Manchester, should not terrify himself so by the fear of dying. Let him take as much cream of tartar daily as will keep his bowels regular; drink now and then a decoction of Iceland moss with lemon juice and sugar; eat oranges and grapes; also wear a flannel shirt, and keep from cold.

**A POOR MAN.**—Take the medicine prescribed by the surgeon; he has done all that can be done for you.

**A. Q. Z.**—Use the simple decoction; all the other ingredients are useless and unnecessarily expensive.

**A MOTHER.**—Why should she use Mrs. Johnson's destructive syrup? Has she not read our opinions upon those "soothing" humbugs? They are all mediums for opium, and opium to children is highly injurious, except in very particular cases, and then it should be used only by the medical practitioners. Take the child to some physician. If she cannot call one in, let her go to some dispensary.

**ANTIQUACK**—There is a bill against quacks now in progress in the house.

**SAM SIMMONDS.**—Use cold washing, and in summer bathe; his disease is of no great consequence, at least by the symptoms he has detailed. Let him take a table spoonful of the decoction of bark with acid, every morning.

**IGNORAMUS** may be deceived as to the luxation.

**ZOOTOMIT MINOR.**—We shall treat of scarlet fever next week, also on the nature of cauls.

**J. K.**—Keep the feet in warm water for half an hour every night, for a month, and walk but little; you may also cut the corns.

**A. S.** We shall treat upon the eye as soon as we can prepare the necessary plates.

**A READER OF THE MEDICAL ADVISER** is informed that we have nothing to do with the *Flash* Medical Pamphlet; our work cannot appear for two months.

Correspondents who may not have received replies to their letters. (if any) will oblige us by applying again.

X. X. X. I. and Mr. Randell—too late for this week.

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# THE MEDICAL ADVISER,

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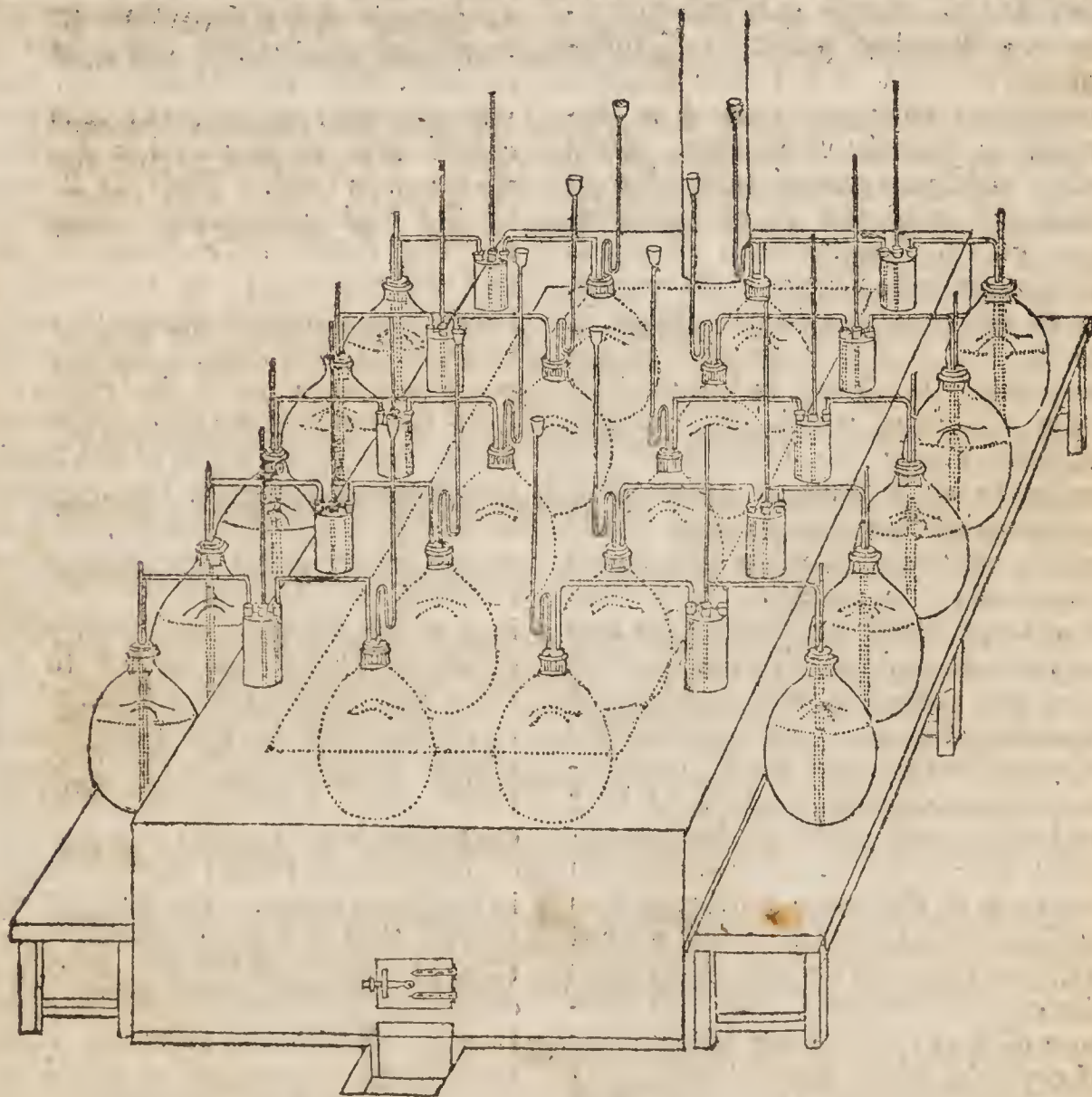
GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

No. 56.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1824.

[Price 3d.]



TO PREPARE CHLORATE OF POTASH.

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## TO PREPARE CHLORATE OF POTASH.

THE variety of uses to which this salt is now put, particularly in making those matches which we import apparently in such large quantities from France, induces us to transcribe, from a French work, an account of the method of manufacturing it. A convenient number of coarse earthenware retorts, containing peroxide of manganese reduced to a coarse powder, are placed over and around a furnace, as seen in the plate. Each of them has a crooked tube adapted to it, and is placed in communication with a Woolf's flask by means of another tube bent at right angles, and water is put in the flask in order that the passage of the gas may be seen. There is an upright tube of safety, which also reaches a little under the surface of the water in each flask; and a third tube, which does not descend to the water, connects it with the vessel containing the potash. This tube is of large diameter, having its two legs of unequal length; the shortest goes into the flask, and the longest plunges into a large vessel, generally of stone or common glass, containing subcarbonate of potash. A long and very small glass rod, bent somewhat like a hook, passes through the cork of the large bottle, and is made to fit as tight as is consistent with moving. The bent end enters the end of the tube, and the purpose of it is to keep the latter clear of crystals, which are apt to form at its mouth and stop it up. This is the reason, too, why it must be of a considerable diameter. Generally the solution of subcarbonate is made of American potash, which is purified as much as possible, by allowing it to remain for some days in earthen vessels before using it; and it should be concentrated from thirty to thirty-five, according to the temperature of the season. After the apparatus has been made ready, and the joinings carefully luted, a quantity of muriatic acid is poured al-

ternately into every retort, which is repeated when chlorine ceases to come over; and this is continued till all the acid is consumed the operator chooses to employ. As the quantity of chlorine necessary to saturate the potash employed is known pretty accurately, the two are proportioned to one another by the operator, and he pours no more muriatic acid into the retort than will produce chlorine enough to answer this purpose. When all the acid has been added, and the gas has nearly ceased to pass over, heat is applied, but very gradually, and without interruption, till it is perceived that vapour and not chlorine comes over. This is known by the high temperature acquired by the tubes of communication, and by the liquid in the Woolf's bottle being discoloured and augmented in quantity. During the operation care must be taken to keep the tubes clear of obstruction, and to notice the height of the liquid in the safety-tubes, or the operator, in addition to other evils, will be much incommoded by the emission of chlorine. The alkaline solution, into which the chlorine is conveyed, grows at first thick, owing to the silica contained in the potash, which is precipitated as the saturation is effected; afterwards an effervescence takes place, which increases as the operation is continued, and crystals of chlorate of potash are deposited in brilliant scales. It should be observed, that in some places the solution of potash is filtered after the operation has been begun, in order to separate the silica, which is almost wholly deposited at the commencement. This, however, is an inconvenient method, and in general it is better to wait till the operation is over; when, after having allowed the chlorate and the silica to drain well, boiling water is poured on them, which dissolves the salt and leaves the silica. It is then filtered, and the chlorate crystallizes as the water cools. This is the salt the French use to make what they call oxygenated matches. We mean only to observe, that this salt has the property, when mixed with com-



bustibles, of decomposing them with a violent detonation. On this account, Berthollet, the discoverer of it, proposed to use it in making a *gunpowder*, and a manufactory was begun at Essonne, in France; but the very first attempt at making it cost two persons their lives, the project was immediately abandoned, and has never since been revived. We mention this quality of the chlorate that our readers may be cautious how they employ it. It may also be mentioned, that this salt forms the basis of Mr. Forsyth's percussion powder, which is now employed as priming to fowling-pieces.

## THEORY OF ORGANIC DISEASE.

(Continued from page 408.)

THE nervous system being the most delicate part of our structure, and its influence absolutely essential to life, we may reasonably presume that a very trifling degree of derangement, so trifling, indeed, as to be wholly imperceptible, in so delicate a piece of mechanism, and one of such general connexion and influence, will be both sensibly and generally felt. Indeed nervous irritation in any severe degree, or in a very sensible part, cannot long exist without spreading to other parts, of perhaps greater importance. From being an affection of the mere nervous tissue, it soon becomes an affection of what is termed, more immediately, the vascular structure. The vessels not only of the part, but of the system at large, soon partake in the disorder, and then sets in the second change in the animal mechanism, or inflammatory action.

Of the Inflammatory Action.—The signs of inflammation are redness and swelling, with heat and pain. I have endeavoured to shew that nervous irritation depends upon certain changes in the fluid which contains the principle of excitability. Sometimes these errors are so trifling, or the structure of the parts may be so sound and healthy, that

the part is soon restored, when the causes of derangement cease to be applied. There is no error of the economy whence organic disease more frequently arises, than that of indigestion. Dr. Philip has divided indigestion into three stages. The first he conceives to depend on a debility of the muscular and nervous powers of the stomach; the second is characterized by symptoms of local inflammation, and a hard pulse; the third is that in which the secondary affections have become organic diseases.

The causes of the first stage of indigestion are such as must exert a material influence on the properties of the blood, and the vigour of the heart. Over-repletion, irregularity of diet, and exciting fluids, are among the chief causes of indigestion. What are the consequences of such irregularities? Increased temperature, high arterial action, thirst, delirium, and the other symptoms of increased excitement. Fever, in many cases, especially in nervo-sanguineous temperaments, forms a prominent feature of even the first stage of indigestion. Indeed I have often felt it impossible to arrange such cases, and have then distinguished them by the name of "febrile dyspepsia." In such there is considerable elevation of temperature, thirst, foul tongue, dry, harsh skin; frequent headache, especially upon any increase of the febrile symptoms, with a hard, quick, wiry, and frequent pulse. The accessions of fever are at first merely occasional, supervening excesses, or other gross irregularities in diet, or imprudent exposures to cold and wet, or a damp and moist atmosphere. Thus the excitability of the heart, and consequently the momentum of the circulation, are preternaturally increased. "As these symptoms proceed," says Dr. Philip, "others, the consequences of the sympathy which exists between the stomach and other parts of the system, gradually shew themselves. These are different in different cases; pain of different parts, and other complaints of the head; affections of the sight, the hearing, the smell, or taste. More



or less habitual inflammation, and even ulceration of the throat, are by no means uncommon, and the voice and articulation are sometimes variously affected. The patient is distressed with spasms of the trunk or limbs, numbness, and even temporary loss of power in the latter; and feelings of endless variety are described as sometimes in one part of the body, and sometimes in another."

These observations perfectly accord with, may I not say confirm, the theory of sympathetic disease which I support. Whenever the organization is weak or defective, it is incapable of supporting or undergoing an excitement corresponding to that of the general system. In consequence of the general excitement, a preternatural momentum of the circulation arises. Those parts of structure which are weakest suffer. A greater afflux of blood takes place, than what the languid action of the organ can assimilate or propel. Besides the more transitory symptoms in the head which have been mentioned, there are often marks of an habitual undue determination of blood to the brain, producing languid inflammation of the eye-lids, tinnitus aurium, and occasionally throbbing of the temples. Some are oppressed with drowsiness, sometimes almost approaching to stupor; others with almost constant pain, more or less severe, sometimes in the back of the head, more frequently in the fore part; others are subject to giddiness, and some even to sudden fits of insensibility.

At last the fever becomes more permanent, and the consequences of the unequal excitement more obvious and distinct. The different viscera according to their powers and structure resist or suffer: sometimes the brain, in another case the lungs, in a third the liver, in a fourth the spleen, in a fifth the skin—in a word, there is every possible variety. When every part of the system is in robust health, and in a state of perfect vigour, the patient continues to experience febrile attacks for a considerable period. These are

sometimes accompanied with symptoms of local inflammation, as local pain and tenderness on pressure, and, under certain circumstances, some degree of fulness in the parts. If the part be strong and healthy, the inflammatory symptoms subside on the reduction of the fever, and again manifest themselves when any cause re-produces the febrile state.

But if particular parts be weak, or that the fever itself becomes more permanent, the local inflammation is then more fixed and settled. In others, on the contrary, particularly those of a more feeble constitution, the second stage soon shews itself. Before the symptoms of the first stage have long attracted notice, tenderness in the epigastrium supervenes, and the pulse becomes contracted.

I have already endeavoured to point out the circumstances which dispose to local inflammatory affections. Dr. Philip seems to imagine, that before sympathetic disease manifests itself seriously, the second stage of indigestion, such as he has characterized it, always appears. Of the correctness of this opinion, I must confess, I entertain some doubt. I have seen patients labouring under local inflammations of the different viscera, consequent to indigestion, and in whom I could trace no indications of the previous existence of the second stage, such as he has defined it. The parts which are liable to become thus secondarily affected are determined principally by the structure of the parts themselves. I think there can be little doubt that secondary diseases are the consequences of febrile action in the system; and in this view it will be readily perceived that they supervene because the local is inadequate to the general excitement. Is not this theory strongly confirmed by Dr. Philip's own observations? With regard to the circumstances which dispose the sympathetic disease to affect one part in preference to another, we have reason to believe that this is chiefly determined by different parts in different individuals being more



liable to disease than others, and therefore, feeling more the cause of irritation which affects the whole system. Thus in children, who are disposed to inflammation and subsequent effusion in the ventricles of the brain, indigestion often terminates in hydrocephalus internus. From about fifteen to thirty-five years of age, the disposition to affections of the lungs is greatest, and it often produces phthisis. At a more advanced period, a tendency to disease of the rectum prevails, and in old age to affections of the heart and head; the latter, however, of a different nature from those to which children are subject; and we still observe the tendency of indigestion to produce the disease to which the system is disposed, whatever be its seat.\*

Hence then, we find that the second degree of change in our mechanism, and which arises as a secondary affection, is of an inflammatory type. The character of the inflammation being determined by the strength of the inflamed part, compared with the vigour of the system, and the general excitement, if the excitement be excessive, the character of the inflammation will be per-acute. Per-acute inflammation is, I believe, disposed to terminate very rapidly, ending almost immediately in effusion or suppuration. If the excitement be more moderate, the inflammation will be of the acute description; that is, not quite so violent as in the per-acute, nor so languid as in the sub-acute. If the general excitement be of a very languid description, then the inflammatory action will assume a low, languid character, which often deceives medical men, and is led to irremediable organic disease. This species may be designated the sub-acute form of inflammation. It is the form, or perhaps more correctly, the degree of inflammatory action, to which organic disease most frequently succeeds. The per-acute and acute are accompanied with symptoms and excitement too obvious and too sensible to be either neglected or misunderstood. Their severity will command the attention

both of the patient and the practitioner. The sub-acute, however, being of a very languid nature, is neither so severe nor so urgent, and probably has made great progress before any attention has been bestowed on it.

Another source of inattention to that species of inflammatory action arising from a sub-acute degree of fever, is the type which the fever itself, the immediate cause of the inflammation, assumes. The fever most commonly appears in the remittent form; I have known it appear as an intermittent. In the latter case, the supervention of the fever can generally be traced to some obvious cause, as exposure to cold, wet, moist or damp air; or to some excess and irregularity either in diet or exercise. The ague eases and congestions, which formerly were so frequent an occurrence after, or even during the progress of intermitting fevers, were ascribed to the specific action of the medicine, necessarily exhibited for their cure, upon the congested organ. We have now, however, become better acquainted with the effects of febrile action, and medical men are at present more disposed to regard those inordinate enlargements of the liver and spleen as the consequences of the fever, probably increased by the bark. Even in a healthy state, it is highly probable, that the exciting influence of so large a quantity of bark, as was considered necessary for the cure of obstinate agues, would not exert itself equally through the whole animal economy, and that habitual inflammatory action of different parts would soon be evident.

However the intermitting form of fever, in dyspepsia, that is, arising solely from the regular causes of indigestion, is so rare an occurrence, as to be regarded rather an anomaly in pathology. The fever frequently assumes the remitting type. Thus we often learn from patients, that at night, after being exposed to the influence of the various exciting agents of the day, they labour under inward fever; that their sleep is disturbed and unrefreshing; that



they thirst; the hands and feet burn; they are harassed by dreams, nightmare, or palpitations. In some instances, an irregular kind of delirium manifested in a confusion of intellect or stupor, and even some degree of coma, attend. A febrile dyspeptic will, in the morning, perhaps, be perfectly collected and sensible, and, perhaps, capable of the most vigorous mental exertion. He may also be able to undergo some degree of bodily fatigue; but, before night, the mind languishes, the strength fails, and the whole energies, both animal and mental, become enervated and enfeebled. These attacks are at first only occasional, and are therefore neglected; or if attended to, are by a stimulating plan of treatment converted into more permanent disease. The fever now probably remits irregularly, or is readily excited by the slightest causes. Sometimes the fever becomes continual, and the patient is seldom or ever free from some degree of the febrile state.

He is now particularly liable to local inflammations. These sometimes affect the eye, the throat, the liver, the lungs, &c. according to the peculiar circumstances on which I have already insisted. Thus I have seen the structure of the eye completely destroyed, and its function wholly lost, from a tonic and exciting plan of treatment. The same takes place in the secondary diseases of the chest and abdomen.

At length, pain, tenderness, soreness on pressure of the most affected parts, take place. It often happens that the patient is not aware of this circumstance, and that the inflammation has gone some length, or even terminated in effusion, as in the case of the serous and cellular membranes; or in suppuration, as when the parenchymatous viscera become the seat of the inflammatory action, before either he or his professional attendant is aware of the actual danger. Sometimes ulceration takes place, and sphacelus of the intestines, even without any very evident symptoms of inflammatory action. This I have met with occasionally. Very recently (7th August, 1824,) I was called to a case, in which

the symptoms of inflammation of the bowels were extremely equivocal. There was obstinate constipation; a strong regular pulse; pain of the abdomen, apparently from distention. The abdomen was very much distended with wind, and was blown out almost as if with a severe ascites. Pressure, though it created some pain, yet gave a little relief; there was fever, irritability, and great uneasiness. The man, however, was perfectly collected. Sixteen ounces of blood were drawn, leeches applied to the abdomen, and a blister afterwards. Purgatives of various descriptions and powers were also actively administered. He took nearly a drachm of oil of croton, in doses of three drops every half hour; the purgative effects of which were assisted by cathartic enemata. Every effort, however, proved unavailing, and he died on the 12th between eleven and twelve o'clock at night.

*(To be continued.)*

## SCARLET FEVER.

*(This disease is extremely prevalent at present.)*

THE characteristics of scarlatina are as follow.—The fever is the contagious synocha. About the fourth day of the disease, the face is a little swelled: a florid redness in large spots, afterwards coalescing spreads partially over the skin, and in three days more or so goes off in furfuraceous scales, often succeeded by anasarca. The disease takes its name from the colour of the patient's skin.

It is divided into three kinds when unaccompanied with an ulceration of the throat. It is named scarlatina mitis, or simplex: when attended with such an affection, it is called scarlatina anginosa: and when accompanied by symptoms of malignancy and putrescency, the term scarlatina maligna is applied to it. The two latter are, however, very frequently blended together.

It has been disputed, whether the scarlet fever and malignant sore throat ought to be esteemed dis-



ferent diseases, or only varieties of the same disease.

In my opinion they are the same in specie, which is confirmed by our finding that they are both epidemical at the same time: even in the same family, where a number of children have been ill either together, or immediately after one another, some have had the distinguishing symptoms of scarlet fever, and others of the malignant sore throat. Indeed it is now pretty generally admitted, that scarlatina, in all its forms, as well as the cynanche maligna, is produced by the same specific contagion.

There prevails much doubt amongst practitioners respecting the recurrence of scarlatina, some affirming that they have seen the disease recur in such manifest and unequivocal a form, as to leave no doubt on their minds as to its possibility, whilst others deny its ever affecting the same person a second time. Amongst the great number of persons who have been infected, a few may be admitted, I think, to have gone through it a second time: but persons who have once been attacked with it, are less susceptible than those who never have had it.

Scarlatina attacks persons of all ages, but children and young people are most subject to it, and it appears at all seasons of the year; but it is more frequently met with towards the end of autumn, or beginning of winter, than at other periods, at which time it often becomes a very prevalent epidemic.

Sudden changes from heat to cold, rainy weather, and indigestion, may predispose the body to be acted upon more readily by the infection.

As an epidemic, scarlatina does not always assume precisely the same appearance. This diversity depends probably, in part, upon the varying nature and constitution of scarlatina itself, independently of all extrinsic circumstances; in part, upon certain contingencies, which are common to all the inhabitants of a whole district of country: such as the season of the year, the temperature of the air, the mildness

or inclemency of the weather, together with other unknown qualities of the atmosphere; and partly upon circumstances which apply to individuals subjected to the disease, their general habit of body and constitution, their particular state of health at the time of the attack, and their situation with respect to lodging, ventilation, and cleanliness.

Beyond all doubt scarlatina is of a very contagious nature. Simple contact, inoculation, and inhalation, are the different ways by which the infection, not only of scarlet fever, but of other contagious disorders, may be introduced into the human body. It is the opinion, however, of Dr. Blackburne, that the chief and only avenues to infection, in common, are the mouth and nostrils; and, consequently, that to guard against its communication through these channels, is the principal, or only necessary precaution. He thinks that the introduction of infectious particles into the human body by simple contact is impossible; and to support this, he brings forward the testimony of the late philanthropic Mr. Howard, who made no scruple of going into the open air to the windward of a person ill of the plague, and feeling his pulse; as likewise that of Dr. Russel, who personally attended the sick in the plague, and felt the pulses of a great number. That infection by the simple contact of poisonous matter on the skin is far less ready to excite disease than when applied, in the subtle state of vapour, to the more irritable surface of the nostrils and bronchiæ, is indisputable; but that it proves universally innocuous under every state and condition of the body, may be doubted.

The disorders to which scarlatina bears the greatest resemblance, are the measles and cynanche maligna; but from the former it may be distinguished by attending to the following characteristic marks, in addition to those noticed under the head of Rubecola.

The efflorescence in scarlatina generally appears on the second



day of the fever; in the measles, it is seldom very evident until the fourth. It is much more full and spreading in the former disease than in the latter, and consists of innumerable points and specks under the cuticle, intermixed with minute papulæ, in some cases forming continuous, irregular patches; in others, coalescing into an uniform flush over a considerable extent of surface. In the measles the rash is composed of circular dots, partly distinct, partly set in small clusters or patches, and a little elevated, so as to give the sensation of roughness when a finger is passed over them. These patches are seldom confluent, but form a number of crescents, with large intervening portions of cuticle, which retain their usual appearance. The colour of the rash is also different in the two diseases, being a vivid red in the scarlatina like that of a boiled lobster's-shell; but in the measles a dark red, with nearly the hue of a raspberry.

During their febrile stage, the measles are distinguished by an obstinate harsh cough, forcing up, in repeated paroxysms, a tough acrimonious phlegm; by an inflammation of the eyes and eyelids, with great sensibility to light; by an increased discharge from the lachrymal glands, sneezing, &c. Scarlatina is frequently attended with a cough, as also with redness of the eyes; but on minute observation, it will generally be found that the cough in scarlatina is short and irritating, without expectoration; that the redness of the eyes is not attended with intolerance of light; that the ciliary glands are not affected; and that, although the eyes appear shining and watery, they never overflow. In scarlatina there is usually a peculiar sensation of anxiety, depression, and faintness in all cases which are attended with fever; whereas, in the measles, symptoms of general inflammation are to be met with, except where the disease appears under a malignant form.

The following are the chief distinctions between scarlatina mitis

and cynanche maligna. The fever in the former is somewhat of an inflammatory nature, and is untended with sloughy ulcerations in the throat: in the latter these are always to be observed, the breath is very fetid, and the accompanying fever is of the typhoid kind. In scarlatina the skin is of a brighter scarlet, smooth, and always dry and hot; in cynanche maligna it is red and pimply, the pimples being redder than the interstices.

Scarlatina mitis, like all other fevers, begins with languor, lassitude, confusion of ideas, chills, and shiverings, alternated by fits of heat. The thirst, after a little time, becomes considerable, the skin dry, and the patient is often incommoded with anxiety, nausea, and vomiting.

The alvine evacuations are most commonly of the usual quantity; the urine is high-coloured and turbid; and the pulse is weak, and varying from 100 to 120 strokes in a minute. In a few cases some slight affection of the fauces is perceived.

About the second or third day the scarlet efflorescence appears on the skin, which seldom produces, however, any remission of the fever. On the departure of the efflorescence, which usually continues out only for three or four days, a gentle sweat comes on, the fever subsides, the cuticle or scurf-skin falls off in small scales, and the patient gradually regains his former strength and health. Such is the disease in its mildest aspect.

In scarlatina anginosa the patient is seized not only with a coldness and shivering, but likewise with great languor, debility, and sickness, succeeded by heat, nausea, vomiting of bilious matter, soreness of the throat, inflammation and ulceration of the tonsils, uvula, and velum pendulum palati, a frequent and laborious breathing, and a quick, small, and depressed pulse. When the efflorescence appears, it brings no relief; on the contrary, the symptoms are much aggravated, and fresh ones arise.

(To be Continued.)



## BLOOD IN THE LUNGS.

*By Mr. Charles Bell.*

COLOURED water, or size, or oil of turpentine, being injected into the pulmonary artery, returns by the pulmonic veins, running in what is called the lesser circulation. The same fluids being injected into the vein, return by the artery. The fluid being more forcibly propelled into the pulmonary artery, flows by the trachea, and the exudation of the fluid is facilitated, if the action of respiration be imitated by blowing into the trachea at the time of the injection. These coarse experiments in the dead body prove little; but the course of the blood from the extreme pulmonic arteries into the veins, having been seen in the membranous lungs of the laceratæ, the chemical phenomena exhibited by respiration, leave little for us to wish further in explanation of the functions of the lungs.

There are some reflections which naturally occur in taking leave of this subject of respiration, which may have the further effect of confirming in my reader the accurate knowledge of the anatomy.

Although the lungs are very often found adhering to the inside of the chest, and although this union occurs where we cannot discover that the person during life was subject to any inflammation of the chest, yet it is a preternatural appearance. The lungs (covered with the pleura) lie in contact with the sides of the chest, and consequently with the pleura costalis, but without adhesion. They are passive in the motion of respiration. The muscles of respiration clothing the thorax are the agents in this function. The bony and cartilaginous texture of the thorax in the machinery put in motion, and the effect is the dilatation of the lungs; for as the sides of the chest rise, the lungs being in close contact they must follow this rising, and as the dilatation of the lungs is freely permitted by the entrance of the atmosphere through the trachea into their cells, the effect of the action of the muscles of inspiration is the drawing of the atmospheric

air into the bronchial cells, and the contact of that air with the blood circulating in the lungs. In expiration the lungs are equally passive as in inspiration. The muscles which contract the diameters of the thorax, force the compages of bones and cartilages upon the lungs, and compressing them throw out the air by the trachea.

That any other idea should arise in the student's mind is owing to two circumstances; first, the not comprehending the principles of natural philosophy, and puzzling himself with the expression that the air fills the lungs by its weight; which is true, but it is as true that the milk enters the mouth of a sucking infant by the weight of the atmosphere, or that in using a syringe, it is the weight of air which forces the fluid into the syringe. The air enters the lungs by suction; the motion of the thorax produces that suction; or, in other words, the operation of the weight of the air is permitted to take effect by the tendency to a vacuum which the rising of the sides of the thorax produces; the pressure of the atmosphere then causes the air to descend into the bronchial cells.

The second circumstance which gives occasion to misconception, is the lungs seeming to have a motion independent of the chest.

Thus, when a man is wounded betwixt the ribs, the lungs protrude, and this rising of the lungs appears to be owing to a power inherent in them; but attention to the true circumstance will explain the occasion of this. When the wound is received the air enters the chest, and the lungs fall collapsed, the cavity is therefore full of air, and the lobes of the lungs hang loose. The air plays freely out and in through the hole in the chest. But when by change of posture the flapping edge of the lungs fall against the hole in the side, the air which is in the chest can no longer make its exit, without forcing the lungs through the wound. Accordingly, in the act of expiration, the same compression which forces the air out in breathing pushes out the lungs from the side. We may have the proof from anatomy that



the lungs lie in close contact with the pleura costalis.

When the intercostal muscles are dissected off, and the pleura costalis exposed, the surface of the lungs is seen in contact with that transparent membrane, and when the pleura is punctured with the lancet, the air rushes in, and visibly the lungs retire in proportion as the air is admitted. This proximity of the lungs to the ribs explains the effect of fracture of these bones in producing the tumour called emphysema, for thus it happens. The broken end of the rib piercing the pleura costalis, tears also the pleura pulmonalis, and breaks the surface of the lungs, and opens the bronchial cells. Now when the chest is expanded, a little air is drawn through the rugged opening, and lodges in the cavity of the chest (now truly a cavity, the air occupying the space betwixt the lungs and chest.) By little and little the small portion of air which is drawn into the cavity of the chest at each inspiration accumulates until a distressing quantity fills the whole of that side of the chest.

The chest being now full of air, the action of expiration, compressing the air in the chest, it insinuates itself by the side of the fractured ribs into the cellular texture, consequently a crepitating tumour of air is formed over the part hurt, and this quickly extends over the whole body, until the skin is blown up like a sac! and the man is in danger of suffocation. The suffocation is not a consequence of this distention of the cellular substance of the body, but of the fullness of the cavity of the chest on that side wounded. For, at length, the chest being kept distended, and the diaphragm pushed down, and the mediastinum passed to the opposite side, both sides of the chest are oppressed, and the breathing is so checked, that if not quickly relieved, the patient would die.

The emphysema of the body may take place in a different way. The lungs may be diseased; air may be drawn through the abscess, and collect in the cavity of the chest; or the bronchial and true air-cells may

be hurt by exertion, so that the air gets access into the common cellular texture of the lungs; and from the lungs it may find its way betwixt the ligaments of the lungs into the cellular texture of the mediastinum, and hence up into the neck and over the body. These last instances are rare compared with that proceeding from fractured rib.

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*The Analysis of Colocynth, or Bitter Apple.*

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M. BOULDUC analyzed colocynth all manner of ways; as distillation afforded no better satisfaction than that of other cathartics, he macerated it both in water and in new wine, and made an extract from it with both an aqueous and spirituous menstruum; four ounces of the pulp infused in six pounds of new wine, was, after it stood ten days to ferment, distilled in B V: an ounce of an acid liquor came over, which retained all the bitterness of the pulp; the residuum yielded two and a half ounces of a solid extract, which purged gently and without irritation at the dose of ten grains, owing as M. Boulduc conjectures, to the essential salt of the wine, which so sheathed the volatile acrid salts in the colocynth, as to prevent their too great irritation of the intestines; and this he thinks should direct the best correctors for all such drastic cathartics, in order to render them of more general use in practice.

M. Boulduc took sixteen ounces of this pulp, and left it fifteen days to macerate in distilled rain water; upon distilling it after, phlegm only came over, which had neither taste nor any thing else worth considering, but the extract made from the residuum was both much clearer, and at the same time freer from earthy parts, and of a better consistence than extracts generally are, owing no doubt to the long maceration, during which, the earthy and mucilaginous parts had sufficient time to separate and subside; whereas in the usual way of making ex-



tracts, they have not sufficient time allowed them for that purpose. This extract weighed two ounces and a half, it purged gently, though given in a small dose. Spirits of wine could extract no resinous parts from it, though eight ounces of the pulp yielded to spirits of wine half an ounce of an extract, the residuum with an aqueous menstruum yielded two ounces of a saline extract.

From all these trials, M. Boulduc is of opinion, that the best way to obtain the extract of this fruit is, to macerate it for some time in water; this maceration comes nearest to fermentation, by which means the saline parts are separated from the mucilaginous, earthy and other hurtful parts; for he often observed, that either the resinous or saline parts given alone, were always attended with great irritation, whereas when both parts were blended and mixed together, as they are in the watery extract, they work off gently.

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### DEATH FROM CHING'S WORM LOZENGES.

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SURELY, when persons reflect on the hazards and danger they risk in taking Quack Lozenges, if principles of economy can make no impression on them, personal safety, and a just regard for the value of their own lives, and those dependant on them, ought to deter them from pursuing means, which in many thousand—nay, innumerable cases, have been fraught with such dreadful consequences.

And here the Author begs leave to introduce a case of the above description, hoping the public will duly appreciate it; and should the perusal of it be the means of preserving the life and health of a single individual, however obscure, he will deem himself more than remunerated for the trouble and anxiety which the compilation of it has occasioned—a task which nothing short of a thorough conviction of the necessity of putting a stop to the destruction of his fellow-creatures,

could ever have induced him to undertake. He is aware that his uncultivated diction will leave ample scope for the lash of criticism; but, conscious of the rectitude of his intention, he submits with resignation to its ordeal; and will thankfully avail himself of any hints which may be given for the improvement of the work in a second edition, should it be required.

The case I am here about to mention, will, I presume, be found highly interesting to the public in general. It requires little comment or preface. I have only to observe, that the first knowledge of this lamentable catastrophe, was from a printed hand-bill, of which the following is a literal copy:—

“Death, by Ching's Worm Lozenges, a destructive mercurial poison.”

“A patent quack medicine, known by the name of ‘Ching's Worm Lozenges,’ having lately been intruded on, and recommended to the public, I deem it a duty incumbent on me to declare, that the above worm lozenges, from the quantity of mercury contained in them, are a most destructive and deadly poison, less active, but equally capable of destroying life, as arsenic. Numerous, it is to be feared, are the cases where life has been destroyed by them, and the cause not suspected, from the want of medical assistance. But the following lamentable case, which has happened in my own family, can be well attested by many professional gentlemen, and which is confirmed by an inquest taken on view of the body, before W. W. Bolton, Esq. coroner for this place, on Tuesday, the 3d instant, will, it is hoped, operate as a caution to parents, and others who have the care of children, and prevent the administering a sure mercurial poison in the form of Ching's Lozenges, from which the most direful effects may be apprehended.

“On Sunday and Wednesday, December 4th and 7th, 1803, Ching's worm lozenges were administered, according to the directions, to my unfortunate child, (a fine boy of three years old) and on Friday the 9th, he was in a high state of salivation. Medical assistance was immediately called



in, when he was pronounced in imminent danger, from mercurial lozenges. Remedies were immediately applied, and all the aid that medicines could afford resorted to, but without effect; for the mouth ulcerated, the teeth dropped out, the hands contracted, and a complaint was made, of a pricking pain in them and the feet, the body became flushed and spotted, and at last black convulsions succeeded, attended with a slight delirium; and a mortification destroyed the face, which proceeding to the brain, put a period (after indescribable torments) to the life of the little sufferer, on Sunday, the 1st instant, twenty-eight days after he had taken the poisonous lozenges. This shews how cautious people ought to be in administering quack medicines.

"A coroner's inquest being summoned, and the evidence of the medical gentlemen adduced, the jury returned a verdict of 'Poisoned by Ching's Worm Lozenges.'"

ANTIQUACK.

### POISONING FROM COPPER SAUCE-PANS.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

IN a former number of your valuable publication, you mention the danger of using copper sauce-pans. A circumstance, familiar to every Etonian of my own standing, took place during a contest for Windsor, when Keppel opposed the court candidates. About seven of a committee of one of the parties, dined at Salt Hill; the house was, I think, kept by one Partridge. Of the above number five or six died; the wines were analyzed, and no one could account for the shocking event. Above twenty years afterwards, the cook, on her death-bed, declared that some mock turtle, which had been previously provided in a copper stew-pan, was covered with a green scum, and she had no doubt that it occasioned their deaths. The business of the house dwindled to nothing, and it afterwards was inhabited by a nobleman,

whose name has escaped my recollection, in the constant habit of hunting with the king.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,  
A CONSTANT READER.

Devon, Dec. 1824.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

NOT being in the habit of reading your valuable publication, I was surprised by a visit from a professional friend yesterday, who brought the last number and put it into my hands, at the same time pointing out a paragraph in which my name is implicated (by a person signing himself J. Olives) as the writer of a certain letter that has appeared in a former number of your work, in reference to Mr. Dunkin. The severe and pointed rebuke you have given Mr. Olives, in your comment upon the "very little and scurrilous character" of his epistolary communication would probably justify me in treating such an assailant with silent contempt; but as I apprehend the "very little party" who have thus attacked me under cover of a fictitious signature, might construe my silence into an admission of the validity of their allegation, I will, upon this occasion, condescend to observe, that the declaration of my accuser is as positively untrue as it is malevolent and ungentlemanly.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,  
C. RANDELL, Surgeon.

No. 58, Paradise-street,  
Rotherhithe, Dec. 7, 1824.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

*Causes of Miscarriage.*

Some simple folks suppose that the smell of the snuff of a candle will cause miscarriage, and recommend the female in danger, to eat



*a portion of the candle, by way of antidote.*

The danger is conceit, and the remedy merely to pacify the mind.

*Some people think purgatives cause miscarriages, and therefore will not permit pregnant women to use even laxative medicine.*

This is wrong—Violent purgatives of course are to be looked upon as dangerous in pregnant women; but laxatives are absolutely necessary.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

#### *A most powerful Purgative Pill.*

Of Gambouge, three grains.

Of Calomel, two grains.

Of Extract of Colocynth, 5 grains.

Make it into two pills.



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

#### DR. JORDAN.

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

THE name of Burnett ought to rank amongst the many philanthropists who have, at various times, so ardently endeavoured to soothe the afflictions of the wretched. But, Sir, you have nobly resolved on another mode of relief, which is excellent—to exterminate those pests, by the pen, who have been, for the most part, the nuisance of the country's laws;—in short, desperadoes! And yet you see, Sir, how many hundreds of wretched beings are deluded by those blackguards, in one twelvemonth! And, forsooth, how many meet a premature death! Yet no effectual remedy to punish their presumption,

ignorance, and homicide! You have lately adverted to the Jordans—a large field is open for you; but, truly, they have been lashed by you in a manner justly merited. I will take the liberty of remitting a copy of a placard posted about Coventry three years ago. I am now a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was then in my apprenticeship. For the insertion of this you will oblige  
A CONSTANT READER.

#### “DR. J. JORDAN

#### “HAS JUST ARRIVED!

“The inhabitants of Coventry are respectfully informed, as the Doctor is on his way to Scotland; (on the most urgent business); but he having a little time to spare, will favour the inhabitants with his advice to the poor, gratuitously, by their paying for the medicine, which, to them, will be charged the lowest, out of pure charity. At the same time, the Doctor hopes that the higher classes will lose no time in seeking relief; but he must once for all say, that in a few hours he is off. Therefore, come quickly; he cannot—will not—be detained, as the illustrious individuals whom he has in contemplation to visit are to him of the greatest importance. If any of the inhabitants are unwell, the Doctor humanely hopes to see them precisely at twelve o'clock in the forenoon, and eight in the evening.

The celebrated cordial Balm of Rakasiri is so well known to every individual, and to the whole world, that it is useless for him to say any thing in its favour; it will suffice for him to say, that upwards of 200,000 of his Majesty's subjects have been rescued from the grave within the last seven years. See a list of those cases deemed incurable by the physicians and surgeons generally; but only behold such assertions as fallacious, cured—completely cured—by that great, good, and charitable man, Dr. J. Jordan.”

The Doctor finding puffing answered, after having staid three days,



(more than a few hours) issued the following:—

## “ DR. JORDAN.

“ The Doctor, at the request of most of the gentlemen and ladies in this city, has deemed it consonant with the purest charity and philanthropy, to stay with them one week only, and then—then, to the regret of the inhabitants, he is off. To the afflicted only would he address himself. Look up to him as a friend, like the good Samaritan, who poured balsam on the poor man's wound and healed it! Even so with the Doctor. The cordial balm is invaluable,—its efficacy too well stamped, to be effaced either by calumny or ingratitude! Therefore, the Doctor once more invites them to seek relief from the soothing balm. It is made of some hundred different articles from Arabia, Deserta and Felix, from the snowy Caucasus, and from the burning Etna! Therefore come; for soon—very soon—the Doctor is off!”

*To the Editor of the Medical Adviser.*

SIR,

I AM a regular receiver of your valuable publication, and perceive that you wish for some *genuine* account of our quacks. I think your intention laudable, for these fellows impose upon the poor and ignorant by persuading them that they will effect cures for little or nothing; this, with the infatuation there is for being gulled, brings the poor into their snares—poverty with many is the first mover—they are afraid to get into the hands of some of the regulars, who (but they are very few,) are either too exorbitant in their charges towards the poor, or slight them in attention and soothing language (both of which are necessary to the afflicted,) because they are apprehensive that they will not be paid; but the regulars suffer for this, they drive them to the quacks. You are right in calling upon the legislature to do something, if it be

for the sake of the poor; if the rich will go to the quacks, let them suffer—but I will to the gentlemen quacks. Dr. L<sup>rd</sup> is a native of Barton-upon-Irwell, near here. His father was a farmer there, and he was bred to that, but chiefly to weaving and spinning; he was a cotton manufacturer and spinner afterwards in Manchester. After a time he formed a partnership connection, and eventually failed as a spinner, when occupier of the Dacca Mills, in Fleet-street, in this town. The next I find of him is setting up in the medical line, near to the Old Church here; in this situation he has been some years, but he must be a very old man—certainly he has not had the regular education, nor was he bred to surgery or medicine—he is a quack.

Sam. M——s describes himself in his puff as “at home.” He has *invented* some pills—I think he terms them “Lobelia.” His father kept a small shop in back Piccadilly, Manchester, opposite to the end of Spear-street, and either in the premises which are, or are next to the premises which are now occupied as the Albion Hotel Tap. Here S. M. was born, or spent most of his juvenile days. They then removed into Bridge-street, and sold pies, sweetmeats, pastry, &c., doing a little in buying bottles and pots at sales by auction, and selling them again. Mr. S. M.'s duty was to attend the shop and serve customers: it is only within a year or two that he has dabbled in *full* bottles, but by what magic I know not. Certainly he has not been from home to study; I see teeth in abundance now taking the place of pies in the window.

Dr. B<sup>rd</sup> came here as a veterinarian, and pursued (and does pursue) that and horse dealing; he has been four or five years here. After a time he advertised to cure the venereal in five days, and I am told he receives a deal in this way at night. I dare say this is true; his situation is in the centre of the perambulation of the prostitutes; he administers to horses in the day, to human beings in the night. I am well informed that he is neither of



Surgeons' or Apothecaries' Hall, or of the Lock Hospital; and that he has not attended the lectures, nor is entered as a veterinarian. By and by, probably, I can give his origin. It is said that he came here from Liverpool, and I suspect that some part of Ireland was his residence for a time previous; but when I get information which I think can be depended upon, I will give it to you. I write only for your information, and that *hastily*. Yours,

J. H.

[Although London is deeply diseased with Quacks, the evil is by no means so deplorable as in the country, where there are not so many, nor yet such able practitioners. Even the above letter is enough to awaken the government to the necessity of passing a law against this species of swindling. We trust that when Mr. Dunn's bill against the Quacks, brought in by Mr. Hobhouse, is to be argued, that the truths contained in the MEDICAL ADVISER will have their full force.]  
—ED.



## MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.

### YARD OF FLANNEL.

What, when rheumatic I complain,  
Gives sweet oblivion to my pain,  
And makes me feel "myself again?"

A yard of flannel.

What, when my tooth begins to ache,  
And keeps my anxious eyes awake,  
Bids me refreshing sleep to take?

A yard of flannel.

What, when my ear is chilled with colds,  
And her accustomed sounds withholds,  
So kindly lends her fleecy folds?

A yard of flannel.

What, when the throat is stiff and sore,  
Doth the choked vessels flow restore,  
And save from quinsy's frightful power?

A yard of flannel.

Do you desire to find a friend,  
Where warmth and softness gently blend,  
Then I would beg to recommend?

A yard of flannel.

*Private Madhouses—Case of Miss Blenkinsop.* A fellow made application to Sir Richard Birnie, last week, for a warrant to aid him in his "duty," to force back Miss Blenkinsop, to his madhouse, at Windsor, but that magistrate, with his justice of perception, not only refused the warrant, but admonished the applicant as far as lay in his power. The lady appeared, and by her demeanour, convinced everybody that she was not a lunatic, but one of the many victims even now pining beneath the iron powers of private madhouses. We question the right of a magistrate to grant a warrant even in a case of confirmed lunacy. How is he to judge of a sane or insane mind correctly? Many appear to be mad who are not, and many men appear in sound mind, who are as mad as a March hare. Nothing in British jurisprudence is so badly managed as the private madhouses; they may be all converted into little Bastilles, and a man in his senses confined there for life—nay, if he run away, his keeper runs after him, and even has the temerity to apply to the police to assist him in catching his patient, (we were going to say prisoner.)

We think all madhouses, private as well as public, should be visited by proper authorities every week, who would muster all the patients, and hear all their complaints; these authorities should contain two physicians at least, and six uninterested householders.

Suppose John Noah's wife displease him, and that he wish to get rid of her, why let him bribe some petty unprincipled medical man, to certify in the way that Dr. Ferguson did in the above case, and then imprison her for life in a madhouse! Who is this Dr. Ferguson? by the bye, we never heard of him, no more than we have heard of such a "certificate" as he gave.

*Semi-quack puff.*—Some regular physicians and surgeons puff themselves off by advertising their



"treatises." \* Most of such books are puff bills. One surgeon advertising, last week, says—A Practical Treatise on Hemorrhoids or Piles. Now why say *piles*, if the book be meant as a *professional* book?

This is like Courtney, alias Barron, alias Currie, alias Godfrey, &c. advertising "treatise" on Strictures; or Caton, his humbug book on the Venereal Disease.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We will give any Person Five Pounds who will furnish us with the baptismal register of the person now living in the Adelphi, under the name of Courtenay, alias Currie & Co. formerly of Hatton Garden, Advertising Surgeon, —alias Godfrey, of Lothbury—alias Townsend—alias Barron—alias Aaron. We have been informed his name is *Aaron*.

We thank H. DAVIS, we had seen the *Examiner*, with the account of Courtenay, alias Currie & Co. formerly of Hatton Garden, Advertising Surgeon, —alias Godfrey, of Lothbury—alias Townsend—alias Barron—alias Aaron.

W—N—, jun. will find a letter at the post-office, Paisley, to his initials.

M. B. Lose no time in sending an address, as the eruption may be venereal.

JEAN.—The article he alludes to is not admissible, as it throws no light upon the original position of the writers.

W. B.—The rheumatic affection cannot be in the slightest degree affected by the other; it has nothing to do with it. Query—is it a *rheumatic* affection or *venereal*? Send an address, and tell at *what times* the pains come.

J. C.—We never have heard of such a thing as the anti-asthmatic seed.

W. W.—A. Z.—C. M.—X. X. X. I.—Wafer.—F. K. H.—H. Hone—Alfred M. should send word where to address them.

A WALKER should sit down—he requires rest.

MARY R., use cold water and rise earlier—drop all thoughts of the subject.

R. W. H. Druggist of York—The eyes require active treatment—bleed from the temporal artery, and the day after put a blister on the temples—purge the patient well. Then pursue the present system.

ELIZA OF LEEDS—She is not; nor could it be expected—he is a horrible quack who told her it was disease.

P. O.—L, may go on with the mixture for a month.

PETER.—Keep the whole hand in warm water for an hour each day. It will get well very shortly.

HUMANUS (Bristol) should not tease himself: It is only the combined effects of fretting, and the use of improper medicines. Our remarks upon the subject, p. 338 Medical Adviser, together with an abstraction from the "*subject*," will produce every benefit he can desire.

MOMUS.—We agree with him. Dr. Courtenay, although not mad, is not wise; he is, we are assured, and hope and think we shall prove, the identical Currie of Hatton Garden—alias Godfrey, alias Townsend, alias Barron, alias Aaron.

J. G. send an address.—K. R. we thank.



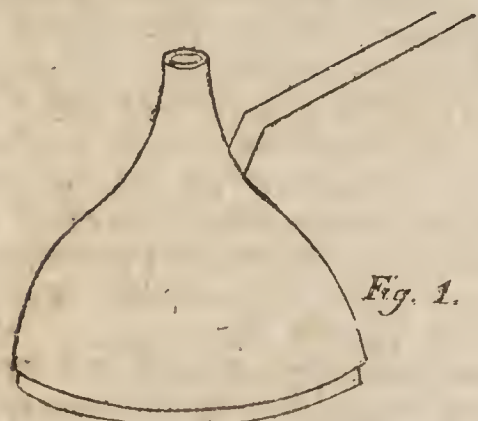
THE  
**MEDICAL ADVISER,**  
 AND  
**GUIDE TO HEALTH AND LONG LIFE.**

EDITED BY ALEX. BURNETT, M.D.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1824.

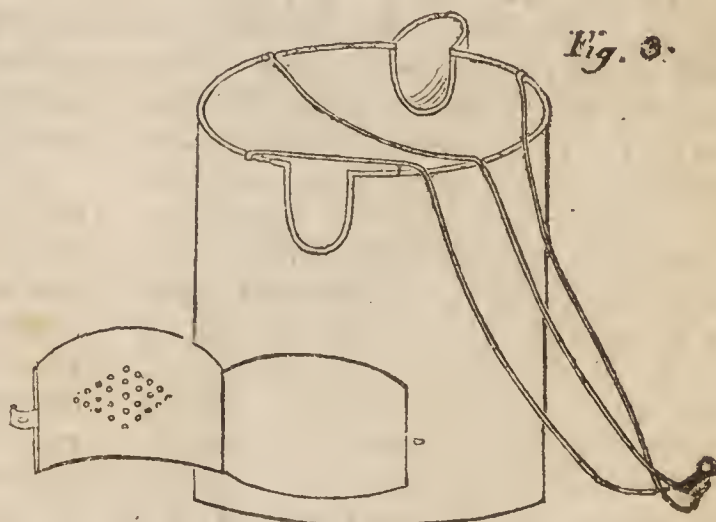
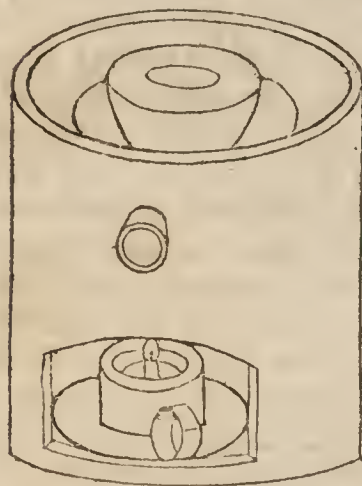
[Price 3d.]



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*

OF PURIFYING THE AIR OF APARTMENTS.

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## OF PURIFYING THE AIR OF APARTMENTS.

ON the Continent, where every thing is regulated by the governments, and where boards of public health and public education watch with a sort of divine prescience over both the bodies and souls of the animated clods which cannot take care of themselves, the subject of this paper is reduced to a regular science or art, and is as regularly treated of in books as mathematics or mineralogy. Our readers need not, on this account, be under any fear for us, as we hold to the simple rule, that to promote a free circulation of air is the best means of keeping our apartments healthy. At the same time, it does happen, that the windows of a sick chamber cannot be always opened, or the wards of an hospital exposed to a draught, and then a chemical means of purifying the air may be both gratifying to the senses of the patient, and contribute to his recovery. If chemistry had done nothing else for man than explain the manner in which his breathing vitiates the air, and then shewn him how the vitiating substances were to be got rid of, and the air again rendered pure and health-giving, she would have conferred on him an incalculable benefit. But for this discovery, it may be doubted of many of the arts which are now practised, could ever have been carried on, and certainly could only have been so at a great expense of human life, and, what is worse, at a great expense of suffering. To give an example of this, which is perhaps not so well known to our readers:—It had long been observed and regretted, that those who worked at gilding by means of the amalgam of mercury and gold, were subject, from inhaling the vapour of the mercury, to a particular disease, which deprived them of the use of their limbs. Mr. Raviro, a large manufacturer of gilded bronze, living at Paris, who had witnessed through his whole life the sad effects of this on his workmen, bequeathed a sum

of 3000 francs as a reward to any person who should find out a means of guaranteeing gilders from the insalubrious effects of the mercurial exhalations. This circumstance directed the attention of M. Darcet, a French chemist of considerable eminence, to the subject, and he succeeded, by promoting a circulation of air through a large funnel in one direction, to carry off all the vapours, mercurial and others, of the shop, and convey them above the tops of the houses, so that they were rendered perfectly innocuous. He has now shewn the success of his plan in more than a dozen workshops; and the prefect of police at Paris has, in consequence, given orders to allow of no gilding establishment unless it is fitted up according to M. Darcet's method. Thus has this gentleman, by attending to the principles of chemistry, been able to protect a large class of workmen from disease, to ensure them a longer period of existence, and to make that period more pleasureable and free from pain.

In the function of respiration, oxygen gas is inhaled, and about an equal quantity of carbonic acid gas exhaled; and a constant renewal of the former gas, that it may be inhaled, and a removal or dispersion of the latter, that it may *not* be inhaled, is necessary for our existence. Independent of this, it has lately been shewn by Dr. Edwards, that azotic gas is also constantly absorbed and as constantly given out. To provide for this destruction of vital air, a current or draught of fresh air seems the only certain remedy. But independent of this, mephitic gases, as they are called, which exhale from marshes, which are generated in crowded apartments, and supposed to be the active agents in spreading contagious diseases, are known by their effects to be frequently present without that proportion of vital air being diminished which is necessary to existence, or without any chemical test which we know of being capable of detecting them. In fact, numerous experiments have been



made on the air of hospitals, in which contagious fevers were raging, and on the miasma of marshes, without succeeding in detecting any thing beyond the usual ingredients of atmospherical air. As in general the noxious ingredients arise from exhalations from the body, there is some reason to believe that they are combined with the water of the atmosphere, rather than the air; and that the means taken to dry the air before experimenting on it, have deprived it of its noxious qualities. If we suspend a glass balloon (see the plate) filled with ice, in a room



crowded with people, and where respiration is somewhat impeded, the vapour will speedily condense on the whole of its surface, and may be easily collected in a bottle placed below the balloon; and we are told if this water be corked up and exposed to a temperature of  $78^{\circ}$  Fahr. it will speedily run into putrefactive fermentation, and the bottle, on being opened, will exhale a very fetid odour. At the same time, if the air which contains this vapour be analyzed, it will be found not deficient a twentieth part of oxygen, and nothing deleterious will be detected in it. Experience has, however shewn, that air loaded with these sort of putrefactive vapours is very noxious, and similar vapours

are probably the cause of death by marsh miasma, and of the contagion of fevers. On this supposition we see the utility of heat, artificial heat, however, which disperses this vapour wherever it is applied in destroying, as it is supposed to do, the cause of contagion.

Under the idea that impure air was air deprived of its relative quantity of oxygen gas, and under the influence of some other theoretical ideas of the causes of air being unhealthy, various methods have been proposed of adding to the purity of the air. It has been found that acetic acid is very beneficial, and as its odour is also very grateful, it is customary to convert it into vapour, under the idea that this destroys contagious air, by plunging a red hot iron into a sufficient quantity. On board our ships of war, where the men are so crowded together that precautions of this description are indispensable, vinegar is used for this purpose in large quantities; and our plate represents the machine employed as better than plunging the iron into the liquid, to convert the liquid into vapour. It consists of a lamp and an earthen dish, placed in a japanned tin cylindrical vessel—a precaution which is necessary on board ship, where, in fact, they are suspended when used. It has a little tube, for carrying off the smoke of the lamp. The earthen dish serves the purpose of a sand-bath, and a glass cup, containing the vinegar, is placed in it. Fig. 1, is a representation of the apparatus ready for use; fig. 2, is the earthen vessel and glass cup employed; and fig. 3. shews the instrument dismounted. A variety of other substances, besides vinegar, have been employed for the same purpose; and Dr. Carmichael Smith received a reward of 5000*l.* from the government, for his method of purifying the air of ships and hospitals by the fumes of nitric acid gas. The French chemist, M. Guyton Morveau, proposed muriatic gas for the same purpose; but we believe nothing is so effectual as promoting



the circulation of atmospherical air. This subject is, however, now so well understood, that the air of a well-regulated hospital, or of a well ordered ship, is as pure and as free from offensive smells as the air of any ordinary apartment.

## THEORY OF ORGANIC DISEASE, &c. &c.

(Continued from p. 422.)

ON opening the abdomen, the omentum majus was found very much loaded with fat; in the centre was a complete tissue of red vessels, which gave it the appearance of an injected preparation. All the intestines and the stomach were greatly enlarged and distended with air; there seemed to be no difference between the diameter of the large and small intestines; nor could the colon be distinguished from the jejunum or ileon, except by its ligamentous bands and cells. The large intestines were filled with a soft (almost fluid) stercoraceous matter: the small intestines contained hardened scybala. In the cœcum was found an ulcer which had opened completely into the cavity of this portion of the intestines. The general appearance was a dark sphacelated or gangrenous one: their texture was nearly rotten, as the bare handling for examination was sufficient to rupture them in many places. The liver was natural, but the gall-bladder was enormously enlarged, and contained twelve ounces of a dark-green-coloured bile. The spleen was unusually small, and did not weigh above two ounces; the pancreas nearly natural, a little hard and somewhat turgid; the bladder natural. The peritoneum was inflamed in several places; and in some, had the same dark sphacelated appearance already noticed in the intestines.

Unquestionably this state of the inflamed viscera arose in consequence of that languid inflammatory action which I have been hitherto discussing. Had this man applied more

early, or even adopted the means suggested by the gentleman who attended him in the first instance, this state might probably have been averted; or at all events the disease would not have terminated fatally so soon. I am particularly anxious to call attention to this period of secondary disease. It is that at which active and judicious medical treatment may do much; if the third or organic change should set in, I fear all our efforts will then prove unsuccessful.

When a patient has laboured under febrile dyspepsia, due care and attention should be paid to all the symptoms; and indeed, to the general history of the case. The appearance of those organs and parts which are exposed should be narrowly watched; and the site of those which are contained in cavities, and thus concealed from our view, should undergo minute manual examination. It will often happen, under such circumstances, that a local inflammation may be found lurking in some part of the body, and which, but for such attention, would have escaped observation.

When the organs which are thus secondarily inflamed, are contained in a bony case, or in a cavity protected with bone, as in the head and chest, we must be guided by certain symptoms, which are generally considered characteristic of internal inflammations. A minute description of these would be inconsistent with the objects of this work. I may just here observe, that impeded, perverted, or deranged functions of any description, when complicated with a febrile state of the system, should always be attended to; and the means of reducing fever, combined with those calculated to relieve local inflammation, should form the basis of our medical treatment.

It cannot be too seriously impressed on the mind both of the practitioner and patient, that the tonic and stimulating plan, if adopted or persevered in, under such circumstances, will soon lead to the third alteration in structure, which, when once fully formed, leaves us



but little to hope from the utmost efforts of medicine.

Of the third degree, or Organic Change of Structure.—After a continuance of the second change which has just been noticed, and the duration of which will vary in different cases, partly determinable by the severity of the morbid operations, and the particular structure and strength of the parts secondarily engaged, succeeds that more serious change, which completely alters the mechanism of the part, and wholly unfits it for its purposes in the animal economy. Every one the least acquainted with morbid anatomy, must be aware of the total impossibility of exactly defining the limits of these changes,—that is, precisely where the one ceases, and the other begins. We well know, that important organs can undergo considerable alteration, and yet conduce, though in an imperfect degree, to the purposes of life: but there are changes to which parts are liable from diseased action, and which render them wholly incapable of any function in the animal economy. Thus the structure of the eye may be so far altered, as that vision may be impaired, but yet not wholly destroyed. If we do not, or cannot correct this state, or at least suppress the causes of it, the mechanism of the organ becomes so far altered, that vision is not only impaired, but absolutely lost. But who will point out wherein consists the essential difference between the termination of the one, and the commencement of the succeeding change of structure. In the more remote degrees, the shades of difference are both obvious and sensible; but when more closely connected, the changes are so gradual and insensible, as to be wholly imperceptible.

If the part thus affected be not essential to life, perhaps the inconvenience may cease with the loss of the function; but if the organ should be of vital importance, or that the perfect function should be essential to life, then such disease must necessarily prove fatal. We have instances of the destruction of an organ, and the loss of its function,

in some of those scrofulous inflammations which attack the eye, and which at length render it incapable of vision. Indeed a sub-acute inflammation of the eye, if not checked, soon destroys its mechanism, and the patient is deprived of sight. I have repeatedly seen, both in England and France, ophthalmia break out among the troops, and produce the most untoward consequences. Red vessels begin to shoot from the opaque into the lucid cornea. When this occurs, the practitioner should then be on the alert. Sometimes exulceration, thickening, and opacity of the transparent cornea very speedily succeed. A negligent or inert practice may, in a very short time, lead to irreparable mischief.

The eye, the ear, the brain, the lungs, the heart, the liver, spleen, pancreas, and mesenteric glands, all become similarly affected, and their mechanism destroyed. The brain is liable to secondary affections, terminating in hydrocephalus. In the case of which I have detailed the morbid appearances in the Medical and Physical Journal, nearly half a pint of fluid was discovered in the ventricles. In those cases of sub-acute disease, with the fluid complete disorganization of the brain is generally found. Who will say the precise amount of watery accumulation which is incompatible with life?—to this quantity may it increase, and no more. In the case to which I have just referred, I believe death resulted rather from the change of structure in the brain, than from the effects of the accumulated fluid. When fluid accumulates to such an extent in the brain, and is at the same time complicated with serious changes of structure, we have every reason to presume that the brain has been long subjected to the mechanical pressure, arising from a considerable quantity of water in the head; and therefore, we may regard the disorganization of the encephalon as the part of the disease incompatible with life.

The lungs undergo serious changes: thus their substance becomes indurated and impermeable to air; sometimes they are completely



hepatized, somewhat resembling the liver in structure. They are frequently tuberculated, and phthisis comes on. In some cases, the bronchial structure becomes inflamed, exudes pus, and the disease resembles phthisis so closely, as hardly to be distinguished. Several instances of this description I have had an opportunity of witnessing, and indeed, the general progress of the disease. Sometimes the air cells of the lungs, from the violence of inflammatory action, become inundated with water, their functions are arrested, and the patient suffocated. The same may happen from the more gradual purulent or pituitous exudations attendant on sub-acute inflammatory action of their substance. Indeed the lungs are liable to a great variety of changes—even gangrene, scirrhus, &c.—each differing somewhat from the other, but all, when arrived at a certain extent, equally fatal.

(To be continued.)

## OF STRANGLING.

(From Smith's Forensic Medicine.)

WHEN this species of murder is performed by a ligature, the difference between it and the former consists only in the subject not being suspended.

It has been a more common method of committing murder than hanging; it may perhaps be admitted, that it is a more violent kind of death, as greater force must be used in tightening the cord than the mere weight of the body would afford. Hence the mark of the cord, or whatever ligature may be used, is in such cases extremely distinct.

Though the *ratio moriendi* in both cases may be considered the same, there are some differences, in point of lesion, which we may expect to meet with on examining the parts. The external aspect of the body will not be materially, nor should it be necessarily different—the mark of the ligature of whatever nature will generally form a complete hori-

zontal circle of discolouration round the neck—the part of the neck at which this appearance will manifest itself may vary; but if it be not at the upper part, there can be no question about hanging. The remark of Ambrose Paré as to hanging, is applicable here. If the cord has been fixed after death, the mark will be of the same colour as that of the rest of the body, though it may happen that, here and there, a discolouration will appear. Still the difference will be manifest. Dislocation of the vertebræ is not to be expected, though there may be fracture of their processes, and in all probability injury to the cartilages of the larynx.

The same problems must be elucidated here as in those cases already discussed. Was the deceased really strangled, or was the rope fastened round his neck after he was dead? If a person has been first murdered in some other way, we can hardly suppose that assassins, (infatuated and bungling as, for the most part, they are in their attempts to embarrass investigation) would merely fasten a rope round the neck, in order to make it appear that he had thus taken away his own life, it being the least likely mode of suicide; and if other violence, sufficient to cause death, had been previously used, the conclusion of the most ignorant and superficial observer must be, that no one could have strangled himself after having received such injuries. It is however possible, that after a person has been strangled, injuries may be inflicted on the body, to conceal or avert suspicion of the true manner in which he was killed. The remarkable case of Sir Edmondbury Godfrey, a Middlesex magistrate, who was murdered in 1678, is a striking exemplification of this point. The manner of his death, as proved by accomplices, on the trial of Green, Berry, and Hill, was this:—Having enticed him, under a false pretence, to a remote situation about Somerset House, a man came behind him, twisted a handkerchief, and threw it about his neck, when four of them threw him down and strangled



him. Not entirely accomplishing their purpose in this way, the person who fixed the handkerchief twisted his neck round, using violence to the body with his knee. This took place on Saturday night. The body was concealed till the Wednesday night following, when about twelve o'clock it was carried away in a sedan chair, and thrown into a ditch. They then passed his own sword through him, and laid his gloves and some other things on the bank, so as to excite belief that he had made away with himself. When the body was found, the end of the sword projected two hands-breadth beyond the back; but there was neither any blood about the place, nor did any follow when the sword was drawn out. The breast was discoloured and bruised, and the neck was so flexible that the chin could be turned from one shoulder to the other. His face during life had always been remarkably pale, but after death it became much suffused.

In 1688, a gentleman of the name of Stausfield was tried and found guilty at Edinburgh for the murder of his own father. Having strangled him, he caused him to be thrown into water. The appearances about the body, however, were such, that both the faculty of physic and that of surgery gave it as their opinion that the deceased had been strangled, and not drowned.

Frequent as such murders have been, instructive cases on record are few. The death of Dr. Clench, which took place in 1692, exhibits with what facility a person may be dispatched in this manner. He was strangled in a hackney-coach by two men, while driving about the streets of the city, without any knowledge of the transaction on the part of the coachman, who afterwards found him kneeling down, with his head on the seat, quite dead, and a handkerchief bound about his neck, in which was a piece of coal, placed just over the wind-pipe.

Strangulation may be performed by the hand. The only difference here is, that instead of a circle round the neck, as in the case of the

ligature, the discoloration will be partial; the bruises will be of an indistinct form, or the positive marks of fingers may be traced.

In the case of Sir John Dinely Goodere, who was murdered on board the Ruby ship of war in 1741, the surgeon's mate, who examined the body, swore that he found the marks of nails and fingers on the neck. This was fully corroborated; for another witness stated, that on looking into the cabin while the murder was perpetrating, he had seen a hand on the neck of the deceased. An accomplice also confessed that they first strangled him with their hands, and then drew a rope tight about his neck.

A very instructive, and at first sight apparently a very mysterious case, was tried in 1763. A man named Beddingfield was murdered, and the charge was laid against his wife and a man-servant. Both medical and other witnesses deposed to marks resembling those of fingers about the neck; but each gave a different account of the number: one surgeon said a thumb and three fingers, the other a thumb and four fingers; and another evidence, who also saw the marks at the inquest, spoke of two marks only—"which looked as if the blood was set in the skin."

The defence was, that the deceased had fallen out of bed, and was found lying upon the floor on his face, with one hand round his neck.

If what has been said on death from internal morbid causes be referred to, it will appear admissible that a person in a fit, or in a state of extreme intoxication, falling accidentally, may get into such a helpless posture that his own hand, or some other hard body pressing on his throat, would occasion death; or this may occur from other causes, while pressure on the neck, leaving marks, may be merely adventitious. The most unsatisfactory part of the case arose from the cavities of the body not having been inspected, a circumstance of itself enough to baffle the enquiries of justice. The prisoners were both found guilty,



condemned, and executed; and there might have been room for unpleasant reflections, had not the man, after condemnation, confessed that he did strangle Beddingfield, having seized him with his left hand by the throat, when asleep, and that though the deceased struggled violently, and made some noise, he soon accomplished his purpose.

At the assizes held at Colchester, August, 1821, a man named Akers was tried for murdering Patience Ellis, by strangling her with a silk handkerchief. He first said she had hung herself on the tester of the bed, but it appeared that the tester could not have sustained her weight; besides which, she had for many years been a helpless cripple. He himself had screwed down her coffin, in the first instance; but a report getting abroad that the deceased was pregnant, the body was submitted to the examination of a medical man, who said she had probably died of dropsy! A day or two afterwards, on being seen by another surgeon, he gave it as his opinion that she had died of violence, and was eight months gone with child.

The following interesting case was communicated to me by a physician, who had it in his power to assure me, from personal knowledge, of the accuracy of the circumstances:—

In a small village of Warwickshire, in the year 1800, a young gentleman suddenly disappeared on the evening previous to his intended marriage. After a lapse of some days his body was found floating in a mill-stream, and it was generally concluded that he had committed suicide, though the cause for such a rash act could not be conjectured. Upon stripping the body, some marks of a suspicious nature were discovered upon the throat. A surgeon was sent for to decide whether death had taken place from any other cause than drowning, who, after a minute examination, gave it as his opinion that he had died by strangulation. Suspicion now fell upon a man of bad character, who had been seen the night Mr. ——— was first missed, running in great

haste from the direction in which the body was afterwards found. He was apprehended, but no evidence of guilt being elicited by the examinations, was discharged, and the fate of the unfortunate man remained buried in mystery. Ten years afterwards, the person suspected was convicted of sheep-stealing, and sentenced to transportation. While on board the hulks, he made a voluntary confession of having destroyed Mr. ———, and declared that such was his remorse, and the horror of his conscience, that he earnestly desired to expiate his crime on the scaffold. He was tried for the alleged offence, entirely on his own evidence, which was as follows:—

Upon the evening of the fatal event, he was stealing potatoes from a field garden belonging to the deceased, whom he unexpectedly saw coming over the gate to secure him, upon which he jumped over the hedge on the opposite side, and ran across the field to make his escape. Mr. ——— pursued him, and being an active young man, nearly overtook him; upon which he (the prisoner) attempted to leap the mill-stream, the bank on the other side giving way, he fell back into the water. Mr. ——— instantly plunging into the water after him, strove to secure him. A desperate struggle now ensued, and the deceased had at one time got the prisoner down under him in the water, by which he was half drowned. At length he succeeded in overturning his antagonist, and, seizing him by the throat, held him fast in this manner, under water, till he seemed to have no more power. He then left him, sprang out, and made his escape.

The judge gave it as his opinion that the case amounted only to excusable homicide, and the man was acquitted.

Upon opening the bodies of those who have been taken off by manual strangulation, the usual appearances of this kind of death may not seem so conclusive as in other cases; from the circumstance, perhaps, of the person making continued resistance,



and the functions of respiration and circulation going on in some measure for a longer period than where they are interrupted at once; as in the instance of drowning, or the effectual application of a cord. In the case of a woman who had been strangled *per manum* by two men, Littre found the tympanum of the left ear lacerated, whence flowed about an ounce of blood; the vessels of the brain were unusually turgid; red blood was extravasated in the ventricles, and also on the base of the cranium—the lungs were distended and their membrane vascular. Not more than an ounce of blood, however, was contained in the right ventricle of the heart, and it was fluid and frothy, like that of the lungs.

Strangulation can hardly ever be taken account of as an accidental occurrence.

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*An Inquiry what becomes of the Air we constantly inspire.—From the Transactions of the French Academy.*

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ALL anatomists agree that the blood every instant of life circulates through the lungs, and that the air we constantly inspire, by expanding the bronchial vesicles contributes greatly towards its traject through them, but are not agreed as to the manner how this is done. Some imagine that the air by its pressure only on the blood-vessels, helps forward the blood, without ever entering the coats of those vessels, or otherwise mixing with the blood in the lungs; others believe that the air penetrates the vessels in the lungs, and by its action on the blood shoves it forward; but none hitherto has inquired, what becomes of this air, after it mixes with the blood in the lungs; whether it exhales with the perspirable matter, or returns with the blood, to be expelled the same way it entered, by the trachea.

As it is certain that more matter is discharged by the skin than by all other outlets of the body taken

together, so it should seem very probable, that this air doth in like manner constantly exhale with the same perspirable matter. M. Mery is of the contrary opinion; he conjectures that the air which enters the pulmonary vein, is carried thence to the left ventricle of the heart, and propelled after with the blood into the aorta, to make the same rounds with the blood, and is brought back with the same blood to the right ventricle of the heart, and from thence propelled into the arteria pulmonalis, and is at last expelled by the same passage it entered, by the trachœa. What seems to countenance this conjecture is, 1. That all animals put under the glass bell of an air-pump do swell, whereas did the air exhale with the perspirable matter, they should not. 2. When air is blown into the trachœa, the left and not the right ventricle of the heart is observed to swell. 3. When air is blown into the arteria pulmonalis, it is observed to escape by the trachœa, and none of it is taken up by the corresponding vein. These experiments seem evidently to prove, that the air we inspire enters by the veins, and returns by the arteries of the lungs, and does not exhale with the perspirable matter. Further, the use here assigned this air, constantly circulating with the blood, seems to corroborate this conjecture. As the veins receive as much blood upon each contraction of the heart, as this throws into the aorta, so there is as great a force required to bring back this returning blood, as was necessary to propel it through the aorta; now, as the veins have scarce any elasticity, they necessarily require some assistance to help forward the returning blood. The air we constantly inspire, and which is the only elastic body we know, constantly supplies this assistance to the veins; this air acts upon the returning capillary veins as a counterspring, to press forward the returning blood, which it could not do, did it constantly exhale with the perspirable matter, as some physiologists have imagined; but after this air has performed its circuit, it



becomes then effete, loses its spring, and is therefore expelled by the trachœa, to make room for a new supply, and for the same purposes, and so on while the animal lives.

To this was objected, that upon collecting a sufficient quantity of the sudor humanus, and putting it under the bell of an air-pump, it is observed to contain as much air as any other fluid; consequently the air we inspire constantly goes off with the perspirable matter.

M. Mery admits that air constantly exhales through all the several outlets of the body along with the excrementitious juices thereof; but insists it is not the air we constantly inspire, but that air only, which we daily take in with our food, and which is intimately blended with the chyle, so as to make with it but one and the same fluid; whereas the air we every instant suck into our lungs remains in substance, never blends with, nor ever can be intimately mixed with the blood, and the several juices derived from it, which should be well considered. And it is upon that very account (its not mixing with the blood,) that this air is of so very great use in the animal economy; for by preserving its springiness, it shoves on the returning blood, by imparting to the capillary returning veins that springiness they want, as was before observed; whereas, did it constantly exhale by the vasa exhalentia, along with the excrementitious juices, it could not perform those salutary effects, and the less so, were it intimately mixed with the blood; for it is a known fact, that air mixed with water for example, is dissolved, becomes the same fluid with it, of course loses its property.

A proof of this we every day see in cascades, water spouts, &c. where the air suddenly let in, raises the water by its pressure on it, whereas the air intimately blended with the same water has no such effect.

It is also as certain, that we every instant of our lives expire nearly as much air as we inspire, which never could be the case, did the same air constantly exhale through the

several outlets of the body; all which when duly considered, will help to evince the truth of this assertion, viz. that the air we constantly inspire, follows the course of the blood, and is discharged after by the trachœa.

That the air we constantly inspire, can never intimately mix with the blood, will be the more readily conceived, by considering the following fact.—All fluids are known to dissolve but a certain determinate quantity of such bodies, as are exposed to their action; water for example, will dissolve but a certain quantity of salt, and if more salt is added than the quantity of water employed can dissolve, this super-added salt will remain undissolved, in the bottom of the vessel; why may not some such thing happen in the human body? the chyle in all animals contains as much air as it can dissolve; this chyle carried daily to the blood, supplies it constantly, and all the juices separated from it, with as much air as they are capable of dissolving, or receiving between their interstices, while the air we constantly inspire, remains undissolved in substance, as the superabundant quantity of salt remained undissolved in the water; this air thus undissolved, never mixing with the blood, but preserving its natural springiness, is continually making efforts to be set at liberty, and upon that very account, contributes greatly to bring back the returning blood, in order at last to free itself from its confinement, by these outlets, which are the only ones capable of giving it issue, the capillary arteries of the arteria pulmonalis, and which permit nothing else to pass through them, at least while they preserve their natural tone and springiness.

The following experiments seem to support this assertion. When milk and water are injected into the arteria pulmonalis, the corresponding capillary veins take it up; the air intimately mixed with them, following the same course. But when air alone is blown into the same artery, the air is observed to go entirely off by the trachœa; none of



it is seen to be taken up by the corresponding veins, as they were observed to take up the milk and water, which seems to prove, that it is not the air intimately mixed with our food, that exhales through the vessels of the lungs, and goes off by the trachœa; further, when air is blown into the trachœa, this is carried entirely by the veins to the left ventricle of the heart, and not one atom enters the arteries; from these experiments it naturally follows, that as the pulmonary artery refuses to admit the air blown into the trachœa, but permits it to exhale through it, when first blown into the pulmonary artery, so this artery must necessarily be the only outlet appointed by nature for its discharge.

Lastly, when the vena cava ascendens of a live dog is opened a little above the emulgent artery, it is always observed, that in proportion as the blood runs out, the cava fills with air, which is carried to the right ventricle of the heart; in this case, it is evident that this air could come no other way but by the capillary veins, that brought back the returning blood; and it is as evident that this same air was never intimately mixed with the blood, but always remained undissolved in substance, following constantly the course of the blood, till it was at last discharged by the trachœa; otherwise in the above case, it would escape with the blood through the opened vein, and never pursue its course to the right ventricle of the heart, as in the above experiment it is known to do.

M. Bouillet, secretary to the academy of Beziers, examines anew this same subject; he confesses he was formerly of the same opinion with Messrs. Pitcairn and Boerhaave, that no air could pass to the blood, either through the internal surface of the bronchial tubes, or through the exterior surface of the body, but upon considering the experiments of Messrs. Reanmur, Petit, Hales, he imagined that air dissolved in any liquid, might penetrate the vessels of the lungs, when it had been imbibed by the serum,

that is always found there to lubricate the membranes of the bronchial tubes. In this case, he thinks the air thus imbibed, i. e. dissolved by the serum, might be taken in by the absorbent vessels, and so be carried to the blood: the experiments of Sylvius, Swammerdam, Thruston, and verified by Bergerus, evince as much: they took warm water, which they had coloured, the better to demonstrate the thing; they poured this water into the trachœa of a dog, often repeating the same, but without using any force, or compressing the lungs; yet it penetrated the membranes of the bronchial tubes, and was seen taken up by the pulmonary veins; the air in like manner, when imbibed by the serum, might and does constantly penetrate the same membranes, and is taken up by the same veins.

All the absorbent cutaneous vessels do in like manner admit air; the whole body is pervious: baths and unctions do demonstrate it. Air therefore constantly exhales through, and is as constantly admitted into all parts of an animal body. Hippocrates was sensible of this fact, when he asserted, that the body like the lungs, did perpetually admit and exhale air; M. Keil has since confirmed the same thing.

The use of this constant supply of air in M. Bouillet's opinion is, to preserve the fluidity of the blood and its several juices; to keep up the tone and springiness of the vessels; the known effects of the air on our bodies he thinks confirms this conjecture; for when the air we breathe is either too hot, or too cold, the blood and other humours circulating with it are sensibly affected thereby; when this same air loses its spring, as at the approach of rain, &c. our blood and the several humours mixed with it, for want of a due pressure on our vessels, run into cohesions, thereby forming obstructions in the capillary arteries, the source of most of our chronic disorders; lastly, whenever this same air is loaded with deleterious particles, it soon induces such changes and alterations in our blood and humours as to produce



the worst of disorders, the plague itself, as daily experience evinces: all this but too evidently proves to us, that the air constantly pervades both the lungs and exterior surface of the body.

### A CHILD'S CAUL EXPLAINED.

THIS is a membrane which envelops the foetus in utero. Most commonly it is ruptured in delivery; but when otherwise, which but seldom occurs, it is termed by the vulgar a *caul*, and, no doubt, was endowed with the power of saving from shipwreck by the roguery of old midwives in former times. That the belief in this power still exists with many, is certain; and that it is a source of profit to designing knaves,—equally so; however, as there is no evil attached to the belief, except that of lessening fools' purses, it is of little consequence.

### CAUTION FOR CHRISTMAS.

LADIES, let us entreat ye not to forget the damp and cold nights of this season. Beware of balls and midnight parties,—or rather, of the manner in which you quit them. “A stitch in time saves nine.” Cover your throat, ears, legs, and feet well, before you tempt the keen blast or cold shower of two o'clock in the morning. Don't be ashamed to draw a pair of worsted hose over your silk ones, nor blush to wrap yourself up in a great coat, should your shawl be too flimsy,—nay, spurn not a “drop o' brandy” when the cock warns you of your departure from the merry meeting. These things,—if you fear death or doctor's bill.

### OLD WOMEN'S REMEDIES EXAMINED.

#### *Spirits to the Eyes.*

A MOST absurd and dangerous application; indeed we have long been

in the habit of excluding tincture of opium from our prescriptions for applications to the eye, merely because it contains spirit. The papers of last week report the case of a child who totally lost its sight by this old absurdity.

#### *Sulphur and Treacle to sweeten the Blood.*

THIS remedy, as to its intention, is imaginary; it is merely a gentle laxative.

### USEFUL PRESCRIPTIONS.

#### *A Purgative Powder for Torpid Bowels in Old People.*

Of ginger, ten grains,  
Jalap, twenty grains,  
Rhubarb, twenty grains,  
Cayenne pepper, two grains;

Mix, and divide into two parts; one may operate,—if not, take the other four hours after.

#### *Draught for the same.*

Of tincture of ginger, two drachms,  
Tincture of jalap, three drachms,  
Tincture of rhubarb, two drachms;  
Mix.—This is a strong dose, and may be lessened as the case requires.



### ANNALS OF QUACKERY.

*Lord George Littleton's and Dr. Oliver Goldsmith's Death by James's Powder.*

Aug. 22.—About noon, his Lordship found his dyspnea, and hurry return. About six o'clock in the evening, he was seized with the rattle in his throat, and with an universal coldness. He found himself a dying man, and expressed his



belief of that being his situation, with great resignation, and instruction to all around him! He continued to drink citron water, and brandy mixed with water, with drops of spit. volat. aromaticus. Blisters were applied one to his stomach, and another to his arm, near the axilla. But the alarming symptoms continuing, three whole papers of James's powder were administered in the night; and a very free evacuation by stool followed in the morning; but the sweats continued cold. In the forenoon of the 23d, he recovered his heat, and he breathed with less difficulty; and he now swallowed old hock, and other drinks. He was better, but to no such degree as encouraged me to expect amendment, much less recover.

This evening the bad symptoms returned; he again repeated two or three whole papers of James's powder, but no evacuation followed; and his abdomen, notwithstanding former evacuation, became more tense and tympanitic. His cold sweats returned, and he died about seven o'clock in the morning of the 24th of August, 1773, in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

The foregoing is one of those few cases where a quack medicine has been administered under the direction of a physician, and must stamp a value on this preparation, which no other can boast of; indeed, were it never used but by the advice of the faculty, there would be no ground to wish for its abrogation, in common with other nostrums; but it is a fact, that many persons, whose education and habits of life should have taught them better, have been known to keep by them, and administer these powders, as a fashionable medicine, on the slightest indisposition of their children or connexions. Among others who are supposed to have accelerated their dissolution by this means is the late Dr. O. Goldsmith, to whose writings the following account of his last illness and death has been prefixed:—

On Friday the 25th of March, 1774, finding himself extremely ill,

he sent at eleven o'clock at night for Mr. Hawes, an apothecary, to whom he complained of a violent pain extending all over the fore-part of his head, his tongue was moist, he had no shivering, and his pulse beat about ninety strokes in a minute. He acquainted him that he had taken two ounces of ipecacuanha wine as a vomit, and that it was his intention to take Dr. James's fever powder, which he desired him to send. Mr. Hawes replied, that in his opinion this medicine was very improper at that time, and begged he would not think of it; but every argument used seemed only to render him more determined in his own opinion.

Mr. Hawes knowing that in preceding illnesses Dr. Goldsmith always consulted Dr. Fordyce, and that he had expressed the greatest opinion of his abilities as a physician, requested he might be permitted to send for him. It was a full quarter of an hour before Mr. Hawes could obtain his consent, as the taking Dr. James's powders appeared to be the only object which employed his attention; and even then he endeavoured to throw an obstacle in his way, by saying, that Dr. Fordyce was gone to spend the evening in Gerrard-street, "where," added he, "I should also have been, if I had not been indisposed." Mr. Hawes immediately dispatched a messenger, who found Dr. Fordyce at home, and who waited on Dr. Goldsmith directly.

Dr. Fordyce represented to him the impropriety of taking the powders in his present situation; but he was deaf to all remonstrances, and unhappily persisted in his own resolution.

On Saturday morning, March 26, Mr. Hawes visited his patient, he found him extremely reduced, and his pulse was now become very quick and small. When he enquired of him how he did, Dr. Goldsmith sighed deeply, and in a very low voice said, "He wished he had taken his friendly advice last night."

Dr. Fordyce perceiving the danger of Dr. Goldsmith's situation,



desired Mr. Hawes to propose sending for Dr. Turton, of whom he knew Dr. Goldsmith had a great opinion: the proposal being mentioned to Dr. Goldsmith, he very readily consented, and ordered his servant to go directly. The Doctors Fordyce and Turton met at the time appointed to assist at a consultation, which was continued twice a day, till the disorder terminated in his dissolution, on the 4th day of April, 1774, in the 54th year of his age.

The following calx is given, as a copy taken from that in the Chapel of the Rolls, for the preparation of

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*Dr. James's Powder.*

Take antimony, calcine it with a continual long protracted heat, in a flat unglazed vessel, adding to it from time to time, a sufficient quantity of any animal oil, and salt well dephlegmated; then boil it in melted nitre for a considerable time, and separate the powder from the nitre by dissolving it in water.

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*—'s Pills for the Venereal Disease.*

Take calomel and precipitated sulphur of antimony, each three drachms; extract of liquorice, two drachms. Rub the sulphur and mercury well together, afterwards add the extract, and, with a sufficient quantity of the mucilage of gum-arabic, make them into pills. Two or three pills of an ordinary size to be taken night and morning.

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*Anderson's Scots Pill.*

Take one ounce of socratine aloes, quarter of an ounce of best myrrh, one drachm of saffron, pounded separately, very fine; then mix them in an earthen pipkin with one spoonfull of water and one of sweet oil, over a slow fire, till all melted, and make up in common sized pills.

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*Fryar's Balsam.*

Take one ounce of balsam of Peru,

one ounce of storax, three ounces and a half of gum benjamin, one ounce and a half of beef angelico one ounce and a half of camphire, one ounce and a half of elicampane, four drachms of myrrh, four drachms of succory, half an ounce of flower of St. John's wort, half an ounce of aloes, bruised together in a stone mortar, and infused in a quart of spirits of wine; then stop it up close in a bottle, and put it in a warm place six weeks, when it will be fit for use.

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*Daffy's Elixir.*

Take of anniseeds five ounces, fennel-seeds three ounces, parsley-seeds four ounces, Spanish liquorice six ounces, senna five ounces, rhubarb four ounces, elicampane three ounces, jalap seven ounces, manna six ounces saffron twenty-one drachms, cochineal a quarter of an ounce, raisins of the sun two pounds, best brandy two gallons. Slice the liquorice, stone the raisins, and bruise the jalap; put all together, and keep them close covered for fifteen days, and, when strained off, it will be fit for use.

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*Radcliffe's Purging Elixir.*

Take one ounce of rhubarb, two ounces of senna, half an ounce each of juniper, anniseed, and carraway-seed, a quarter of an ounce of cochineal; put all the ingredients into four quarts of water, boil them until reduced to three; then add one quart of brandy and half a pint of purging syrup of roses.

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*Godfrey's Cordial.*

Take of opium a quarter of an ounce, English brandy two quarts water one quart, treacle three pounds and a half; let the opium, sliced, be infused in the brandy four or five days, then mix them together, and boil them a few minutes over a moderate fire.



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*'s Tooth-Ache Pills.*

Take four ounces of alum, four ditto of Lisbon sugar, and one ounce of Scotch snuff; melt the alum and sugar in an iron pot, and, when melted, add the snuff, stirring it up; while this composition is hot, make it up into common-sized pills.

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*Heartburn Lozenges.*

Take one pound of oyster-shell powder, and eight ounces of Lisbon sugar; mix these into a paste with a little milk and water, and make them into common-sized lozenges.

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*Itch Ointment.*

Take one ounce of red precipitate, add eight ounces of flour of brimstone, and beat both well up in a pound and a half of hog's lard, and add one ounce of scented oils to destroy the smell of the sulphur. This, it is said, will cure the most inveterate itch in eight hours.



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**MEDICAL TALK OF THE DAY.**

*Force of Imagination.*—The papers of this week record the case of a poor woman who expired twenty-four hours after she dreamed that her husband appeared to her, to warn her of the time and event. This effect was produced by her implicit belief of approaching dissolution acting upon her already debilitated and exhausted frame. We refer our readers to one of our early Numbers for a case of even greater power of imagination. It is that of a man killed by a stream of cold water poured upon the pit of his stomach when he expected a dagger.

*City Churchyards.*—One of the greatest improvements that London

can possess is, we hear, now in contemplation, namely, the establishment of a general burial ground, detached from the city, like *Père la Chaise* at Paris. Is it not revolting to the feelings to have the “*new made graves*” striding the pathways? Independent of taste or feeling, the health of the people require this to be altered. There decidedly exists a putrid effluvia in all the city church-yards which receive many bodies; and to prove it in one case, we refer to that church-yard in Blackfriars-road. Some one lately proposed to burn the dead, but we think this cannot, nor ever will be carried into practice; prejudices upon these points are not easily overcome: but if a handsome, picturesque, and retired spot were selected for the city of the dead, convenient to London, it would meet, we feel convinced, general approbation, besides remunerate the constructors amply.

*Riddle.*—A quack, in — (we forget the town,) has over his door the following: which may serve to amuse our readers in unriddling it.

“*Her life won wo curs a Goos.*”

*College of Physicians.*—This old building in Warwick Lane, is, I have heard, let to a *slaughtering butcher!* and the members have been removed to *Dean-street, Soho*. This is something for “*Dr. Eady's*” trumpet.

*Miss Blenkinsop.*—We mentioned this case last week, and expressed our opinion upon the abuses of private mad houses. We now have to express our surprise at the *attempt* which has since been made by the proprietor of one of them to prove, in *opposition to reason*, that Miss Blenkinsop is insane, and for no very worthy purpose. He was foiled however, and the Proprietor of the Hotel, who rescued her, cannot be too highly commended. Dr. Ferguson, who signed the certificate, we have since learnt, is a highly respectable army Physician; but when he gave that certificate, she *was* insane.



## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

CWRW DA (Shrewsbury), will find a letter from us directed to his real address, as sent.

J. S.—The eyes require inspection; tell us where to address a letter.

JEAN'S favour has come to hand.

J. OLIVES next week. It is a pity both he and T. Trueman do not sign their real names.

IGNORAMUS.—It is not venereal. He will find a letter directed to J., post-office, Manchester. We are glad to hear of the effects of our *dose* to Bird, Sam. Matthews, and the nest of pests. The Manchester people are credulous, but they are open to reason.

O. P. E.—At present the symptoms are in favour of pregnancy. She should take no medicine, but remain as usual for two months, then we may more safely decide.

P. M. W. W. ROAD, will find a letter at the post office, Wycombe, to the initials. We are glad his daughter's general health is restored. She may now leave off the tonic wine.

A FEMALE SUBSCRIBER.—Mix a little burnt alum in the white of an egg, anoint the face at night with it. In the morning after, wash the face with sour buttermilk. The affection may perhaps not be removed by this application, as it is caused by constitutional derangement. However, try this a week, and then say whether it be of use or not.

C. M.—*Sloman* is dead, but his son still humbugs the public with his Balm of Gilead.

INDISCREET, and H. S. and A. Z.—send addresses.

GEORGE.—From the nature of our intended publication, it cannot be out for a month or so. We shall treat of the topics he recommends. The iodine certainly *would* be proper, but in the country he may not get it properly made up. The best place to get all the *new French medicines* is at Messrs. Libberton and Co. No. 10, St. Martin's Le Grand. The senna once a fortnight. If the cases require further advice, we shall be happy to give it.

A., Exmouth.—Leave off brandy, and take a course of the tonic wine, and instead of bread, eat biscuit; his disease is indigestion and nervous derangement.

Those letters with private addresses which require private answers, have been attended to;—if any should have been neglected, write again.

A SERVANT.—It is not D. Courtenay's two marriage certificates that we want—we *have* them; but his *baptismal*. One of his wives lives with him, the other in Fetter-lane.

Letters received on Thursday lie over till next week, unless they have addresses.

JACQUES will find an answer at the post-office, Manchester.

END OF VOL. II.

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